UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

JANICE STEVENSON,)	
	Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	
)	CIVIL ACTION NO. 05-CV-11584-DPW
NEIGHBORHOOD HOU	JSE CHARTER)	
SCHOOL,)	
	Defendant.)	
)	

AFFIDAVIT OF BARRY J. MILLER, ESQ. IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS AND FOR SANCTIONS

I, Barry J. Miller, under oath, depose and say as follows based on personal knowledge:

- 1. I am an attorney admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and am employed by the firm of Seyfarth Shaw LLP. Lynn A. Kappelman, Esq. ("Kappelman"), a partner in the firm of Seyfarth Shaw LLP, and I represent Defendant Neighborhood House Charter School ("NHCS") in the above-captioned matter.
- 2. By Order dated January 23, 2007, the Court directed Plaintiff Janice Stevenson ("Stevenson") to appear for continued deposition in the above-captioned matter at the offices of Seyfarth Shaw on Thursday, February 22, 2007.
- 3. On or about Monday, February 19, 2007, I sent an e-mail message to Stevenson reminding her that the Court had Ordered her to appear for her continued deposition on the following Thursday, and asking that she plan to be at our offices for the day. A true and accurate copy of my February 19, 2007 message to Stevenson is attached hereto at Tab A.
- 4. Stevenson appeared at the offices of Seyfarth Shaw on February 22, 2007. When she arrived, she was dressed in heavy winter garb, including a coat, a hood that covered her head,

a scarf around her neck, and another scarf or muffler that was wrapped tightly over the lower half of her face and covered her mouth.

- 5. Before the deposition commenced, I invited Stevenson to remove her winter garb and hang up her coat, but she declined.
- 6. When Stevenson entered the conference room in which her deposition was to take place, the court reporter was sitting one end of a rectangular table, and I had prepared to take a seat immediately to the right of the court reporter. I asked Stevenson to sit in a chair immediately to the left of the court reporter, but she refused and instead sat in a chair near the opposite end of the table from the court reporter.
- 7. Before the deposition began, I repeatedly asked Stevenson to remove the scarf that covered her face and to sit next to the court reporter. I explained to Stevenson that these measures were necessary to ensure that the court reporter could hear her testimony clearly. The court reporter also emphasized to Stevenson that it was important for her to be able to hear Stevenson clearly.
- 8. Stevenson refused to remove any of her winter garb, including the scarf covering her face, and she refused to sit closer to the court reporter and me, as the court reporter and I had requested.
- 9. Notwithstanding Stevenson's refusals to cooperate, I attempted to continue her deposition.
- 10. From the first moments of the proceedings, Stevenson was exceptionally combative and hostile. She repeatedly attempted to interrupt my questions and statements, beginning with my efforts to explain the ground rules of the deposition proceedings to her. She

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continued by arguing with me and berating me, rather than responding to even the most simple questions put to her.

- After I explained to Stevenson that her refusals to remove the scarf covering her 11. mouth and sit near the court reporter and me were impairing our ability to hear her responses, she abruptly left the room. She returned with two pieces of paper that she had apparently retrieved from the receptionist in the lobby, and she sat down and wrote the word "YES" on one piece of paper and the word "NO" on the other.
- After Stevenson had returned to the room and created the signs described above, I 12. again attempted to resume her deposition. Still muffled by the scarf covering her mouth and still sitting near the opposite end of the table from the court reporter and me, Stevenson then proceeded to respond to my questions and statements by waving the signs she had made, instead of or in addition to spoken responses.
- I informed Stevenson that her use of signs to respond to my questions was 13. inappropriate and that she needed to give audible, spoken responses to my questions. Stevenson nonetheless persisted to respond to questions with her signs, in addition to or instead of spoken responses.
- 14. Stevenson also continued to argue with me and otherwise to refuse to answer questions posed to her.
- 15. After a period of time, and while the deposition was still on the record and in process, Stevenson retrieved a copy of a newspaper from her tote bag. She then turned her back to the court reporter and began reading the newspaper, rather than participating in the deposition.
- I implored Stevenson to put her newspaper away and participate in the deposition, 16. emphasizing that the parties were engaged in an official court proceeding and that she needed to

Filed 03/06/2007

act accordingly. Stevenson refused to put the newspaper back in her bag, and continued to review it, rather than responding to questions or reviewing exhibits placed before her.

- 17. I repeatedly told Stevenson that her behavior was inappropriate and that NHCS and I believed that her refusal to cooperate in the deposition constituted contempt of the two Court Orders requiring her to appear for and participate in her deposition. I also informed Stevenson that NHCS would apprise the Court of her continuing refusal to participate in her deposition and seek further relief, including the dismissal of her claims in this matter and the imposition of sanctions.
- 18. Stevenson initially claimed that she did not recall any Court Order requiring her to appear for and participate in her deposition. I then marked as exhibits the November 7, 2006 Order of the Court and the transcript of the January 23, 2007 hearing in this matter. After debating the authenticity of the documents, Stevenson claimed that the Court had erred in ordering her to appear for deposition or that the Court's Orders were not binding on her.
- 19. During the lunch break in the deposition, I telephoned the Court Clerk and left a voicemail message seeking guidance as to how the Court would prefer that NHCS respond to Stevenson's misconduct at the deposition.
- 20. When the deposition resumed after the break, I apprised Stevenson that NHCS had called the Court seeking emergency relief for her misconduct, and I undertook to give Stevenson yet another opportunity to cooperate in the deposition process. As she had in the morning session, Stevenson obstructed the proceedings by interrupting me and arguing with me, rather than answering the questions posed to her. Stevenson also continued in her refusal to remove the scarf covering her mouth, continued in her refusal to sit near the court reporter and

me, and continued to purport to answer questions posed to her with the signs she had made, in addition to or instead of spoken responses.

- 21. A few minutes prior to 1:30 p.m., the Court Clerk returned my call. She apprised me that the Court would hold a hearing to address NHCS's representations regarding Stevenson's failure to cooperate in the deposition that afternoon at 2:15 p.m. The Court Clerk then asked to speak with Stevenson, so that she could apprise Stevenson of the hearing. I attempted to hand the telephone receiver to Stevenson, but she stated that she was unwilling to speak to the Court Clerk on my firm's telephone. The Court Clerk then requested that I give her telephone number to Stevenson, ask Stevenson to call the Clerk, and tell Stevenson that the Court would hold a hearing in the case that afternoon at 2:15 p.m.
- 22. I then wrote down the Court Clerk's phone number on a piece of paper and handed it to Stevenson. I told Stevenson that the Court Clerk had requested that Stevenson call her, and I told Stevenson that the Court would hold a hearing in the case that afternoon at 2:15 p.m. Stevenson responded with words to the effect that she did not intend to appear at the hearing because she had other things to do.
- Stevenson thereafter left the offices of Seyfarth Shaw, and the deposition 23. proceedings were suspended.

24. A true an accurate copy of the transcript of the February 22, 2007 deposition proceedings in this matter as taken by the court reporter is attached hereto at Tab B. True and accurate copies of the exhibits referenced at the February 22, 2007 deposition proceedings in this matter are attached at Tabs C, D, E, and F respectively.

Signed under the penalties of perjury this 6th day of March, 2007.

/s/ Barry J. Miller

Barry J. Miller

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that this document was filed through the Court's ECF system and that a true copy of the above document was served on Plaintiff *pro se* Janice Stevenson by e-mail to janicestevensonus@gmail.com and by first class U.S. mail to P.O. Box 400372, Cambridge, MA 02140 on March 6, 2007.

/s/ Barry J. Miller Barry J. Miller

Miller, Barry

From: Miller, Barry

Sent: Monday, February 19, 2007 8:54 PM

To: 'Stevenson Janice' Subject: NHCS v. Stevenson

Ms. Stevenson,

This is a reminder that the District Court has Ordered you to appear for your continued deposition on Thursday, February 22. Please arrive at our offices a few minutes before 10:00 am and plan to be here for the day. Please also remember to bring your glasses to facilitate your review of documents and other exhibits.

Regards,

Barry J. Miller Seyfarth Shaw LLP Two Seaport Lane, Suite 300 Boston, MA 02210 office phone: (617) 946-4800 direct phone: (617) 946-4806 office fax: (617) 946-4801 direct fax: (617) 790-6753

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Exhibits: 47-49

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

C.A. No. 05-CV-11584-DPW

- - - - - - - - - - - - X

JANICE STEVENSON,

Plaintiff

vs.

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE CHARTER SCHOOL,

Defendant

- - - - - - - - - - - - - x

CONTINUED DEPOSITION OF JANICE L. STEVENSON

Thursday, February 22, 2007 - 10:19 a.m.

Seyfarth Shaw

World Trade Center East

Two Seaport Lane - Suite 300

Boston, Massachusetts

- - - - - - - -

Reporter: Maureen J. Manzi, CSR, CLR

Merrill Legal Solutions (617) 542-0039

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| | | Page 789 | | Page 791 |
|----------|---|----------|----------|---|
| 1 | A DDE A D A NICEG | rage 705 | | |
| 1 2 | APPEARANCES: *** JANICE L. STEVENSON - PRO SE | | 1
 2 | PROCEEDINGS |
| 3 | JANICE L. STEVENSON - PRO SE | | 3 | JANICE L. STEVENSON, duly sworn by the |
| 4 | *** SEYFARTH SHAW | | 4 | Notary Public was examined and testified as follows: |
| | | | 5 | DIRECT EXAMINATION, CONT.
BY MR. MILLER: |
| 5
6 | (BY BARRY J. MILLER, ESQ.) and | | 6 | |
| 7 | (CATHERINE V. MEEK, ESQ.) | | 7 | Q. Before we get started Ms. Stevenson, I want to put on the record the fact that I've asked you to |
| 8 | World Trade Center East | | 8 | sit next to the court reporter and you've denied to |
| 9 | Two Seaport Lane - Suite 300 | | 9 | do that. Is that right. Ms. Stevenson? Can you |
| 10 | Boston, Massachusetts 02210 | | 10 | hear me? For the record I've also asked Ms. |
| 11 | (617) 946-4800 | | 11 | Stevenson to remove a scarf and muffler so the court |
| 12 | Counsel for the Defendant | | 12 | reporter and I can understand her responses and her |
| 13 | Counsel for the Detendant | | 13 | testimony. She's declined to do that. Is that |
| 14 | | | 14 | right, Ms. Stevenson? Do you understand the |
| 15 | | | 15 | question? For the record Ms. Stevenson has given no |
| 16 | | | 16 | verbal response. |
| 17 | | | 17 | I'll ask again. Ms. Stevenson, can you |
| 18 | | | 18 | hear me? Do you understand what I'm saying to you? |
| 19 | | | 19 | I need you to give verbal responses to my questions. |
| 20 | | | 20 | That's not a verbal response. For the record Ms. |
| 21 | | | 21 | Stevenson has made a gesture. I'm not sure what she |
| 22 | | | 22 | means by it. But as we discussed at previous |
| 23 | | | 23 | sessions of your deposition, Ms. Stevenson, the |
| 24 | | | 24 | court reporter is here to take down everything that |
| | | Page 790 | | Page 792 |
| 1 | INDEX | | 1 | I say and everything that you say. That's the |
| 2 | JANICE L. STEVENSON | | 2 | purpose of this proceeding. So you need to respond |
| 3 | BY MR. MILLER 791 | | 3 | to my questions and you need to respond verbally |
| 4 | | | 4 | using words. Do you understand that? |
| 5 | | | 5 | A. Did you hear me before? |
| 6 | | | 6 | Q. I didn't and I've asked you to take the |
| 7 | | | 7 | muffler off. |
| 8 | EXHIBITS | | 8 | A. You heard. |
| 9
10 | Exhibit 47, errata sheet of Janice L. | | 9 | Q. Don't tell me. |
| | Stevenson | | 10 | A. Didn't she just swear me in. Did you hear |
| 11
12 | Exhibit 48, transcript of the January 23, | | 11
12 | my response? Q. I heard your response to that. |
| 13 | 2007 hearing | 2 | 13 | A. Then why would you ask a stupid question? |
| 14 | Exhibit 77, Induce of Appeal 903 | , | 14 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, your job here is not to |
| 15 | | | 15 | critique my questions. Your job is to respond |
| 16 | | | 16 | A. Move on. Move on. |
| 17 | | | 17 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, you're not going to tell |
| 18 | | | 18 | me |
| 19 | | | 19 | A. Move on. |
| 20 | | | 20 | Q which questions to ask. You |
| 21 | | | 21 | understand |
| 22 | | | 22 | A. You hear me now. Don't you hear me? |
| 23 | | | 23 | Q. Yes. Can you hear me? |
| 24 | *Original exhibits retained by Attorney Mi | ller. | 24 | A. Then move on. |

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- Q. I'm not going to move on, and I'm not going 1
- to let you tell me which questions to ask.
- A. Are we having a conversation or an argument,
- whichever way you want to clarify that? You hear
- me? You understand me, so does she.
- 6 Q. All right. So you represent for the record 7 you can hear me?
- 8 A. Did you represent you could hear me?
- 9 Q. When you speak, I can. When you make gestures, I cannot. 10
- A. Did you hear me? 11
- 12 Q. I'm not here to answer your questions, Ms.
- 13 Stevenson.
- 14 A. Did you hear me?
- 15 Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop.
- A. Well, let the record reflect that you will 16
- 17 not respond to me.
- 18 Q. I will not respond to your questions.
- That's not the purpose of this proceeding. 19
- A. Well, can you hear me? 20
- 21 Q. Ms. Stevenson, I can hear you when you talk.
- 22 A. That's fine.

1

3

- 23 Q. And I've asked you to take off --
- 24 A. I don't have to if you hear me.

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- do that; is that right? Do you understand the
- question?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. You don't understand?
 - A. No.

5

- 6 Q. Okay. Let me take it as slow as I possibly
 - can. You understand that I've asked you to sit next
- to the court reporter; is that right? Ms.
- Stevenson. For the record Ms. Stevenson has again
- elected again not go give a verbal response. Ms. 10
- Stevenson, I've asked you to sit next to the court 11
- 12 reporter. Do you understand that?
- 13 A. Do you hear me?
- 14 Q. You need to respond to my questions, Ms.
- 15 Stevenson.
- 16 A. Can you hear me?
- 17 Q. I can hear you when you speak loud enough.
- 18 I asked you to take the muffler off but you refused
- to do that. 19
- 20 A. But can you hear me?
- 21 Q. I'm not going to answer your questions, Ms.
- 22 Stevenson. You need to understand that the
- 23 proceeding --
- 24 A. But can you hear me?

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- Q. I've asked you to take off the muffler.
- 2 I've asked you to sit next to the reporter.
 - A. I don't have --
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop interrupting me. Ms.
- 5 Stevenson, you know from our prior proceedings --
- 6 A. Why would you hold up your own deposition?
- 7 You hear me. I'm not going to take it off.
- 8 Q. Ms. Stevenson, your job here is not to argue 9
- with me, you know that.
- A. This is not a trial. I'm telling you, I'm 10
- 11 not going to take it off because I'm uncomfortable
- 12 in this room.
- 13 Q. It's not cold in here.
- 14 A. To you.
- 15 Q. That's right.
- A. I'm telling you how I feel. 16
- Q. Well, I'll point out that the thermostat 17
- 18 reflects that it's 75 degrees in this room and
- you're sitting in there in a winter coat and a
- muffler and you're telling me you're cold.
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. So as I tried to start this off. I want to
- 23 represent for the record that I've asked you to sit
 - next to the court reporter, and you've declined to

- 1 Q. Stop interrupting me.
- 2 A. But can you hear me? And she can hear me.
 - Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm not going to answer your
- questions.

3

5

10

- A. And she can hear me.
- 6 Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop it.
- 7 A. And the reason you wanted me to move here is
- so she can hear me. So she can hear me. 8
- 9 Q. She can hear you better if --
 - A. If I sit over here --
- 11 Q. Your job is not to argue with me here, Ms.
- 12 Stevenson.
- 13 A. She can hear me.
- Q. That's not the point. Your job is only to
- respond to my questions. My first question is --15
- 16 A. But she can hear me.
- 17 Q. Ms. Stevenson --
- 18 A. Can you hear me?
- Q. -- stop it. My first question is --19
- A. Can you hear me? 20
- Q. I'm not going to respond to your questions. 21
- 22 A. Can you hear me?
- 23 Q. My first question is --
- 24 A. Can you hear me?

3 (Pages 793 to 796)

5

13

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- 1 Q. Stop interrupting me, Ms. Stevenson.
- 2 A. Am I audible in this room?
- 3 Q. Not very well, you're muffled because you're
- 4 wearing a scarf over your mouth.
 - A. Am I audible in this room?
- 6 Q. Not very well, no.
- 7 A. I'm responding.
- 8 Q. What?
- 9 A. Yes.

5

- 10 O. What?
- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. You're answering your own questions now, is 12
- 13 that what you're trying to do?
- 14 A. No, I'm asking you a question. You said
- 15 what?
- Q. I'm having trouble understanding you because 16
- 17 you have a scarf over your mouth.
- 18 A. No, no, you don't.
- Q. You're telling me whether or not I have 19
- 20 trouble understanding you?
- 21 A. You're talking.
- 22 Q. I can hear about half of what you say with
- that scarf over your mouth. 23
- A. I'm going to say one word yes or no.

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- Q. All right. We're starting over. Ms.
- 2 Stevenson, you understand that I've asked you to sit
- 3 in the chair --
- 4 A. No.

1

- 5 Q. Stop interrupting. All right. First, we'll
- go through the ground rules. We've done this twice
- 7 before and I know you know these rules but we'll
- cover them again for the benefit of the record and 8
- 9 for your benefit.
- 10 A. What rules?
- 11 Q. Listen and I'll explain them to you. The
- 12 purpose of this proceeding is for me to ask you
- questions and for you to respond those questions. 13
- Do you understand that? 14
- 15 A. Can you hear me?
- 16 Q. That is not responsive to what I just said
- to you. Respond to what I'm saying. The purpose of 17
- 18 this proceeding --
- 19 A. What did I just say?
- Q. Stop interrupting me, Ms. Stevenson. The 20
- first ground rule --21
- 22 A. What did I just say?
- 23 Q. I have no idea what you're saying. You're
- 24 very muffled. The first ground rule --

A. I can't hear you.

2 Q. You can't hear me because you've got a hood

on. Take the hood off and you'll have a good chance 3

of hearing me.

A. I'm cold.

6 Q. Excuse me? Excuse me? What did you say?

You're now representing that you're having trouble

- hearing me because you're sitting there in a hood
- and a scarf. This would all go much more smoothly
- 10 if you would take that off but you're refused. So
- we're going to try this again. I'm going to explain 11
- 12 the ground rules.

The first ground rule is, that we have a 14 court reporter here who is taking down everything I

- 15 say and to the extent she can with your muffled
- speech everything you say. For the record to be 16
- 17 clear we need to talk one at a time -- stop right
- 18 there. 19
 - A. She never said I can't hear you.
- 20 Q. It's not her job to say that. Her job is to
- 21 just take it down as best she can.
- 22 A. I think in a deposition --
- 23 Q. What you think is irrelevant. I'm telling
- 24 you that her job is not to tell --

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- 1 A. In a courtroom if they can't understand you, 2
 - they say, oh, can you repeat that. She hasn't said anything since.
- 3
- 4 Q. And I'm telling you that understanding you 5 just represented is inaccurate. It's not her job
- 6 to interrupt these proceedings. 7
 - A. Are you speaking for her?
- 8 O. That's right. I'm telling you what her role 9 here is.
- 10 A. Are you hearing for her?
- 11 Q. What?
- 12 A. Are you typing for her?
- 13 Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop arguing with me. The
- 14 first ground rule of this proceeding is that we
- can't interrupt each other. So when I'm talking, 15
- when I'm making a statement, when I'm asking you a 16
- question, you need to sit there and listen to what I 17
- 18 say and let me finish so that the court reporter can
- 19 take everything down and then you respond. Okay, do
- you understand that? 20
- 21 A. I've answered the question.
 - Q. That's not responsive. Your job is not to
- 23 tell me what you --
- 24 A. I've answered the question.

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|-------|--|----------|--|
| 1 | Q. Ms. Stevenson | 1 | Q. You've just interrupted me again. You need |
| 2 | A. I've answered it how many times now. | 2 | to answer the questions |
| 3 | Q. Well, you continue to interrupt me | 3 | A. I've answered the question. |
| 4 | A. Three. | 4 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop interrupting me. |
| 5 | Q so I have to continue to ask. | 5 | A. I've answered your question. |
| 6 | A. I've answered your question. | 6 | Q. You have not answered the question, and even |
| 7 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, your job is not to dissect | 7 | if you have |
| 8 | the record, it's not to tell me what questions | 8 | A. I have answered the question. |
| 9 | you've been asked and what questions you've | 9 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, you need to understand that |
| 10 | answered. | 10 | she |
| 11 | A. It's been answered. | 11 | A. Three questions. |
| 12 | Q. Stop interrupting me. And I'll tell you | 12 | Q. You have to stop interrupting. |
| 13 | right now, that your representation that you think | 13 | A. Three questions. |
| 14 | that you've answered a question before is not a | 14 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, your job is not it interject. |
| 15 | basis to answer it again. And we're going to mark | 15 | Your job is to sit there and answer the questions |
| 16 | some exhibits with the instructions that the court | 16 | I've asked you. |
| 17 | has given to you in this matter and your objections | 17 | A. I've answered three questions. |
| 18 | and your protestations and your arguments are | 18 | Q. Stop making statements. I haven't asked you |
| 19 | improper. | 19 | anything. There's nothing pending. |
| 20 | A. I've answered the question. | 20 | A. You asked me three questions. |
| 21 | Q. There's no question pending. | 21 | Q. Your job is to sit there and |
| 22 | A. Yes, there was. | 22 | A. You asked me three questions and I've |
| 23 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm explaining to you | 23 | answered them. |
| 24 | A. Because I've answered it, that's why it's | 24 | Q. We're going to start over and we're going to |
| | Page 802 | | Page 804 |
| 1 | not pending. | 1 | go through this methodically. You're going to |
| 2 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm explaining to you the | 2 | answer each question so that it's clear what you're |
| 3 | rules of this proceeding. | 3 | responding to. The first question strike that. |
| 4 | A. I've answered your question. | 4 | The first instruction as to how this proceeding is |
| 5 | Q. There is no question. I'm explaining some | 5 | to take place is that you and I cannot talk at the |
| 6 | rules to you. I've explained to you the first | 6 | same time. The court reporter can't take down both |
| 7 | ground rule of this proceeding, that that is you and | 7 | of us talking at once. So you need to not interrupt |
| 8 | I cannot talk at the same time. That means you | 8 | me. You need to let me get out my question or my |
| 9 | can't interrupt me when I'm talking. Do you | 9 | statement to you and then I'll let you respond. Do |
| 10 | understand that? It's a yes or no question. | 10 | you understand that? Do you understand the |
| 11 | A. I've answered your question. | 11 | question? |
| 12 | Q. That's fine. Answer it again. Do you | 12 | A. I've answered the question. |
| 13 | understand it, yes or no? | 13 | Q. I don't care if you've answered it. Answer |
| 14 | A. You didn't ask me this question. I answered | 14 | it again so that the record is clear. Do you |
| 15 | the question before. | 15 | understand |
| 16 | Q. I didn't hear what you just said. | 16 | A. Didn't I say yes to that question? |
| 17 | A. Yes. | 17 | Q. Stop asking me questions. Ms. Stevenson, |
| 18 | Q. Yes, you understand that you can't talk | 18 | you're making this far more difficult than it has to |
| 19 | while I'm talking? | 19 | be. |
| 20 | A. Yes, I asked you a question. | 20 | A. It is not difficult. |
| 21 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, that's totally inappropriate. | 21 | Q. You're arguing with me is difficult. |
| 177 | You need to just answer the questions I've asked you | 22 | A. I'm not arguing with you. |
| 22 | | | |
| 23 24 | without going into A. I've just answered you. | 23
24 | Q. You're not arguing about me whether you're arguing with me. Your simple job is to sit there |

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15

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and answer yes or no to the questions I've asked 2

3 A. You've asked me three questions. One of them you asked twice and I've answered twice. So out of three questions you asked me twice I've

- answered twice. So what's the issue here? 7
 - O. The issue --
- 8 A. You want there to be an issue.
- 9 Q. The issue is you're not cooperating in this deposition. The court has been very --10
- A. What have I not answered? 11
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop interrupting me. The 12
- 13 question has been very clear in this matter.
- 14 A. Stop banging at me. You're angry.
- 15 Q. Ms. Stevenson, the court has been very
- 16 clear.
- 17 A. You're angry.
- 18 Q. Ms. Stevenson, your misconduct in this
- matter is a matter of record. 19
- 20 A. You're angry.
- 21 Q. The court has been very clear --
- 22 A. You are angry. You are angry.
- Q. Stop interrupting me, Ms. Stevenson. Your 23
- interpretation of my mood is completely irrelevant.

you need to respond to my questions and you need to

record instructing you to appear in this proceeding

and to cooperate in it. To comply with those orders

not interrupt me and you need it allow this

5 questioning to go forward. Do you understand that?

- A. I've answered the question. I keep saying yes. You keep asking me the same question over and over again.
- 9 Q. That's not responsive to what I've asked 10 vou.
- A. Excuse me one minute. One minute. One 11 12
- 13 Q. You want to take a break? For the record Ms. Stevenson's leaving the room. 14

(Brief recess held.)

- Q. Let me know when you're ready. For the 16 17 record Ms. Stevenson has left the room, retrieved
- 18 paper and she's writing notes on pieces of paper
- that's she's brought with her. She's showing me one
- 20 with the word that says "yes". She's now written
- 21 "no" on the separate piece of paper that she brought 22
- 23 Ms. Stevenson, you need to understand 24 that the court reporter here can only take down

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- 1 A. Well, you're banging on the desk.
- 2 Q. Ms. Stevenson, you need to understand the purpose of this proceeding.
- A. If I was banging on the desk, would you have 5 her record that?
- 6 Q. I can't understand what you're saying with 7 the muffler on.
 - A. You're banging on the desk.
- 9 Q. Fine. You just need to sit there.
- 10 A. You're angry.

8

- Q. That's fine. You just need to sit there and 11
- 12 listen. Ms. Stevenson. For the record Ms.
- Stevenson is now facing away from the court reporter 13
- which is going to make this transcript even more
- difficult. For the record I've asked Ms. Stevenson 15
- 16 to sit next to the court reporter. She's refused.
- 17 I've asked her to remove the hood and scarf that are
- 18 covering her ears and her mouth, most of her face.
- 19 She's refused. So we're going to try and get
- 20 through this.
- 21 Ms. Stevenson, I will represent to you
- 22 that the court could not have been more clear that
- 23 you have engaged in serious misconduct in this case
 - and in this deposition. There are orders on the

- spoken responses. Ms. Stevenson, that's
- inappropriate. She's waiving a piece of paper that
- 3 says "yes" at me. That's categorically
- inappropriate. You need to give verbal responses to
- each and every question that I ask you.
 - A. Yes.

6

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- 7 Q. Waiving those pieces of paper does not
- accomplish anything. You need to verbally respond
- 9 to my questions.
 - A. Yes.
- 11 Q. You understand that?
- 12
- 13 Q. Now, Ms. Stevenson, we've had a great deal
- of difficulty getting started here today. I'm going
- to represent for the record --15
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop interrupting me. We've
- 18 had a great deal of difficulty getting started here
- 19 today. I'm going to represent again for the?
- record --20
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. -- that I've asked you to sit next to the
- 23 court reporter. You refused to do that. I've asked
- you to remove the scarf that's covering your mouth

6 (Pages 805 to 808)

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- and the hood that's covering your ears and you've
- refused to do that. Is that correct?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. You have not refused to do that?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. I'll ask you again. Will you please take
- 7 the seat next to the court reporter?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. What's the basis for your refusing to sit
- next to the court reporter? 10
- 11 A. I'm audible.
- 12 Q. Ms. Stevenson, that's not for you to judge.
- 13 The court reporter is professional --
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop it.
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. There's no question pending. Ms. Stevenson,
- 18 the court reporter is a professional. She needs to
- take down the most precise transcript that she can.
- 20 For her to do that you need to sit next to her. Do
- 21 you understand that?
- 22 A. Yes.

1

- 23 Q. So I'd ask that you take the seat next to
- 24 the court reporter.

1 A. No.

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- 2 Q. You understand that you're, in fact, not 3
 - sitting in the chair next to the court reporter?
- 4 A. You understand, in fact, you can hear me?
 - Q. Ms. Stevenson, this is not about what I can
- hear. I've asked you to sit next to the court --6
 - A. Is that what the issue is?
- 8 Q. Stop it.
- 9 A. You said sit next to her so she can hear 10 vou.
- 11 Q. Ms. Stevenson, your behavior here is 12 entirely inexcusable. And I'm going to represent to
- 13 you that given the court's statements regarding your
- 14 misconduct in this case up to this point, you are
- 15 risking serious sanctions by behaving this way. And
- I'm going to ask you one more time. Will you please
- 17 take the seat immediately next to the court report?
- 18 For the record Ms. Stevenson has given no verbal
- 19 response and she continues to sit across the room
- 20 from the court reporter.
- 21 Ms. Stevenson, I'm also going to ask you
- 22 again to remove your hood and your muffler so that
- you can hear me and that the court reporter and I
 - can hear you. Will you do that? For the record Ms.

Page 810

- A. She understands me.
- 2 Q. Ms. Stevenson, that's not for you to judge.
- Please take the seat next to the court reporter.
- A. Is that your judgment?
- 5 Q. Yes, Ms. Stevenson, it is my judgement.
- 6 A. So you hear me.
- 7 Q. I can hear parts --
- 8 A. I told you.
- 9 Q. I can hear part of what you're saying, Ms.
- Stevenson. The fact that you're not completely 10
- 11 inaudible does not mean that you're not being
- reasonable, in fact, far from it. I'm going to ask 12
- you one last time. Will you take the seat next to 13
- the court reporter? I need a verbal response. For 14
- 15 the record Ms. Stevenson is holding up the piece of
- 16 paper that she labeled "no" and she is apparently
- 17 declining to sit next to the court reporter. Is
- 18 that right, Ms. Stevenson? There's a question
- 19 before you, Ms. Stevenson.
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. You haven't refused to sit next to the court
- 22 reporter --
- 23 A. No.
- 24 Q. -- is that your testimony?

Stevenson has given a sigh but no verbal response.

1 2 Well, Ms. Stevenson, I will tell you

- 3 once again that your behavior here today is
- completely inexcusable. It's obstructionist and we 5
- do intend to bring it to the attention of the court, 6 and if necessary we will seek sanctions including
- 7 the dismissal of this case and order requiring you
- 8 to pay Neighborhood House's attorney's fees in this
- 9 matter. I'm going again to try to explain the
- 10 ground rules of this proceeding to you, and I know
- 11 you understand this but the fact that you have
- 12 engaged in this sort of obstructionist misconduct
- 13 forces me to put this on the record again.

14 The purpose of this deposition here

- 15 today which is a continuation of prior proceedings
- 16 from September of 2006 is for me to ask questions
- 17 and seek testimony from you regarding the claims
- 18 that you have asserted against Neighborhood House
- 19 Charter School. Do you understand that? For the
- record Ms. Stevenson has given no verbal response. 20
- 21 So I'll pose the question again. The purpose of 22 this proceeding is very limited. Your only reason
- 23 for being here today is to respond truthfully to the
- questions that I ask you against the claims you've

7 (Pages 809 to 812)

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Page 813

- asserted against Neighborhood House Charter School.
- 2 Do you understand that?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Okay. And the purpose of this proceeding is
 - not for you to argue with me or attempt to debate
- with me about what testimony you might have given in
- 7 the past or to make speeches about your claims
- 8 against the school. Your only job and the only
- thing that you are allowed to do is to answer my
- questions truthfully and substantively. Do you 10
- 11 understand that?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. What about that do you not understand?
- A. Your question is not clear. 14
- 15 Q. We'll get to that. I want you to understand that your only rule --16
- 17 A. I don't understand the question.
- 18 Q. Okay. We'll get to that. I want you to
- 19 understand that your only reason for being here is
- to respond to my questions truthfully and 20
- 21 substantively. If at some point I ask you a
- 22 question that you don't understand, you let me know
- and I will either restate it or attempt to clarify
- it for you. Okay?

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Page 814

- A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Okay. And for the record Ms. Stevenson has
- continued to engage in this behavior where she's
- showing us these cue cards that she's made rather
- 5 than removing her muffler so that we can hear her
- 6 spoken testimony. You also need to understand, Ms.
- 7 Stevenson, that I'm asking you questions --
- 8 A. It's cold in here. Can you turn that up?
 - Q. Ms. Stevenson, it's 75 degrees in here.
- 10 A. It's cold in here. This isn't the first
- 11 time I've complained about this.
- 12 Q. Well, you have been here all of 20 minutes.
- I will attempt to turn the heat up, but I'll 13
- represent to you that it's a digital thermostat on 14
- the wall and it says it's 75 degrees. 15
- 16 A. Can you put it on 80?
- 17 Q. Now, Ms. Stevenson, you understand that
- 18 you're here to give testimony and that in response
- 19 to the questions that I ask you your obligation is
- to give me your best memory of events that
- transpired. Do you understand that? 21
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And do you understand that you have to make
- a diligent effort to remember information that may

- be responsive to my questions and you cannot just
- decline to answer because you don't want to remember
- 3 the answer to a question? Do you understand that?
- 4 A. I don't understand.
 - Q. All right. I'll explain it again. Your job
- is to use your best efforts to remember information 6
 - that may be responsive to any question I ask you.
 - A. What is the best effort?
- 9 O. You don't understand what it means to make a 10 best effort?
- 11 A. Yeah.
- 12 Q. You don't understand what that means?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. That means you need to try as hard as you
- can to remember information that may be responsive 15
- to my questions. Do you understand that? 16
 - A. Yeah, but even after best effort I can't,
- 18 then what?
- 19 Q. Then you can tell me that that's your best
- 20 memory. If the answer to some of my questions is I
- 21 don't remember, that's an acceptable response. But
- 22 you have to undertake your best effort to remember
- 23 information that might be responsive to my
- questions. Do you understand that?

- 1 A. So what is a process to undertake a best 2 effort?
- 3 Q. You don't know how to remember things that
- 4 have happened to you, is that what you're telling 5
- 6 A. Well, I will try to remember and if I can't
- 7 and you don't accept it, then how can I show you I 8
 - am making my best effort.
- 9 Q. I'm not going to ask you to show me
- 10 anything. I'm going to ask you a series of
- 11 questions about the claims you've asserted against
- 12 NHCS. In response to each of those questions you
- 13 need to think to yourself and try to the best of
- your ability to remember information that is
- 15 responsive to my questions. Do you understand that?
- 16 A. I think so.
 - Q. Is there anything about that instruction
- 18 that's ambiguous to you?
- 19 A. Yes.

17

- 20 Q. What's that?
- 21 A. You make it subjective.
- 22 Q. And what's ambiguous about that?
- 23 A. Because if I said I can't remember and you
- 24 think it's not my best effort --

8 (Pages 813 to 816)

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1 Q. We're not talking about --

2 A. -- and I can't do any better than just put 3 forth my best effort --

Q. That's all I'm going to ask you to do, is put forth your best effort. And we're not talking about my estimation of how hard you're trying. I'm

7 just asking you whether you understand your

8 obligations in giving testimony here today. Your

obligation in giving testimony here today is to try 10 to remember as best you can information that's

responsive to my questions. Do you understand that? 11 12

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13 Q. And for the record Ms. Stevenson has 14 continued to use her cue cards and giving muffled

15 responses. And as we've discussed, Ms. Stevenson,

if at some point I ask you any question that you 16 17 don't understand, your obligation to is to let me

18 know that you haven't understood the question. Do

19

you understand that?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And if you answer a question that I've asked 22 you, we will assume and the court will assume that

you understood it. Do you understand that? 23 24

A. Yes.

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Page 818

Q. Now, if at any point you would like to take a break, to use the restroom or for any other purpose, please let me know and I'll finish up the line of questioning I'm on and we'll take a break. Do you understand that?

6 A. Yes.

Q. And after your deposition in this matter is finished, just as with the two prior sessions of your deposition that you actually attended, you'll have an opportunity to review the transcript that the court reporter has prepared of your testimony. Do you understand that?

13 A. Yes.

> Q. And you understand that if you do not review your testimony and make proposed corrections to it, you will have been deemed to have adopted your testimony as transcribed? Do you understand that?

A. Yes.

(Marked, Exhibit 47, errata sheet of Janice L. Stevenson.)

21 Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm showing you a document marked as Exhibit 47. I'll ask you to review it, 22

23 take a look at it and let me know when you've had an

opportunity to do so. In the meantime I'll also

note for the record in response to your complaint

that this room is cold, I've turned the heat up as

3 high as it goes in this room, and the thermostat at

4 this moment reads 75 degrees.

Ms. Stevenson, have you had an opportunity to review the document marked Exhibit 47? Ms. Stevenson. Have you had an opportunity to review that document?

A. Yes.

10 O. Ms. Stevenson has I want to note for the 11 record continued to use her cue cards to respond to these questions. And I just want you to understand,

13 Ms. Stevenson --14

A. What is this?

Q. Hold on. Let me get out what I'm telling you. Don't write on the document, please. Ms.

17 Stevenson has elected to continue to use the cue

18 cards that she's prepared rather than giving clear

19 verbal answers. And I just want you to understand,

20 Ms. Stevenson, that your antics here are making this

21 progress much slower than it normally would and

22 certainly much slower than it would. And if you

23 continue to do that, there's every likelihood that

we're not going to be able to finish this deposition

Page 820

here today and that we're going to have to resume another session of your deposition. Do you

3 understand what I've said to you?

4

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5 Q. Again Ms. Stevenson has answered with her 6 cue card.

A. Who is this?

8 Q. Ms. Stevenson, you need to respond to the questions I've asked you. We'll get to the document

10 in a moment. What I've told is your behavior here,

11 your refusal to take your scarf off, your refusal to

12 take your hood off, your refusal to sit next to the

13 court reporter, your continuing to argue with me, 14 your using cue cards to respond to the questions

15 that I've asked you, they all make this proceeding

take much much longer than is reasonable or 16

17 necessary. And if you continue to behave that

18 way -- let me get out my statement. If you continue

19 to behave that way, this is going to take forever.

20 We're not going to finish today and we're going to

have to resume another session of your deposition. 21

22 Do you understand that?

23 A. No.

24 Q. What about that do you not understand?

9 (Pages 817 to 820)

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| | Page 821 | | Page 823 |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1 | A. Who is this? | 1 | A. Well, I'm objecting. |
| 2 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, don't worry about the | 2 | Q. Object, that's fine. As Magistrate Judge |
| 3 | document for a minute. You need to listen to what | 3 | Alexander told you, any objections you have to |
| 4 | I'm saying to you and you need to respond to the | 4 | render in these proceedings, you can make for the |
| 5 | question | 5 | record. |
| 6 | A. Who is this? I'm asking about the document. | 6 | A. What's her name again? |
| 7 | Can you just answer me? | 7 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, you need to stop interrupting |
| 8 | Q. And I'm telling you, Ms. Stevenson, we're | 8 | me. |
| 9 | not focused on the document. | 9 | A. What's her name. |
| 10 | A. I don't understand this. | 10 | Q. You need to stop interrupting. |
| 11 | Q. I'm not asking you anything about the | 11 | A. What's her name? |
| 12 | document. I'll take this back just so it's clear. | 12 | Q. My colleague's name is Catherine Meek. |
| 13 | What I'm saying to you has nothing to do with any | 13 | A. Spell it. |
| 14 | document. | 14 | Q. I'm not going to do that for you. |

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Page 822

- 15 A. I don't understand that document. Yes, you 16 did.
- 17 Q. No, Ms. Stevenson, I have not, and we'll get 18 back to that in a minute. The only thing I asked
- you about the document is whether you had a chance
- 20 to review it and you gave no response. Now, what
- 21 I'm telling you --
- 22 A. I asked you about the document. I've
- 23 questioned the document.
- Q. That has nothing to do with what I'm about
- Page 824

Q. For the record, Ms. Stevenson, the antics

Q. Stop interrupting me and stop asking me

A. What is the spelling of her name?

- to tell you. You need to if this is going to move
- forward sit there and listen the what I'm --
- 3 A. I've answered the question.
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop interrupting. You need 5 to sit there --
- 6 A. Who's that?
- 7 Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop it.
- A. Who's that? 8
- 9 Q. Ms. Stevenson, you need to sit there --
- 10 A. Who's that?
- 11 Q. Ms. Stevenson, you're interrupting me again.
- 12 A. Well, who is that?
- 13 Q. For the record I'm joined by my colleague
- Catherine Meek. She's another attorney with my 14
- 15 firm.
- 16 A. Okay. Why is she in here?
- Q. That is none of your business. 17
- 18 A. Yes, it is.
- 19 Q. It certainly is not.
- 20 A. It is.
- Q. Stop interrupting. 21
- 22 A. It is.
- 23 Q. Ms. Stevenson, NHC can staff its defense of
- this matter in any way that it sees fit.

1 A. I want a spelling.

A. Spell it.

Q. No.

A. Yes.

that you --

questions.

- Q. Well, you can want all you want. It's not 3 going to happen.
- A. I want a spelling.
- 5 Q. I'm not going to let you take control of
- 6 this deposition.
- 7 A. Please give me a spelling. 8

A. Give me a spelling.

Q. It's not going to happen.

- Q. I'm not going to do that unless and until
- 9 you participate in this proceed. 10
 - A. Give me a spelling.
- Q. I'm not going to do that. 11
- 12 A. Give me a spelling.
- 13 Q. At a break I can give you a copy of Ms.
- 14 Meek's business card.
- 15 A. I don't want a business card. I want a
- 16 spelling.
- 17 Q. I can guarantee you that her name is spelled
- 18 on the business card.
- 19 A. I guarantee you can spell it now. Don't you
- know how to spell her name? 20
- 21 Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop it. This misconduct is
- 22 ridiculous. All right. The court has been very
- 23 clear.
- 24 A. I asked you who it was. You didn't want to

10 (Pages 821 to 824)

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identify it.

- 2 Q. Ms. Stevenson, your question has been
- 3 answered.

5

- 4 A. Spell her name.
 - Q. Ms. Stevenson, your conduct here is
- completely inexcusable. You need to stop
- 7 interrupting me.
- 8 A. Give me the spelling. I'm being reasonable.
- 9 Q. You are being as far from reasonable as is
- humanly possible. Now, I'm trying to explain to you 10
- that the behavior you've engaged in here this 11
- 12 morning by refusing to sit next to the court
- 13 reporter, by refusing to remove your hood, by
- refusing to remove your scarf, by attempting to
- answer my questions with cue cards is --15
- A. Do you want to end this? 16
- 17 Q. -- obstructionist conduct.
- 18 A. Do you want to end this?
- Q. Ms. stevenson --19
- 20 A. Do you want to end it?
- 21 Q. I'm not sure what you're talking about.
- 22 What I want to do is finish taking your deposition.
- A. We have had a conversation for maybe 23
- 24 half-an-hour, hour. You claim you don't understand

Page 826

Page 828

- 1 me.
- 2 Q. I can understand about half of what you're 3
- A. Okay. Half will be on the reporter's
- 5 transcript.
- 6 Q. And it's not sufficient. It is her job to 7 take down everything that is --
- A. I want a spelling. I want a spelling. Then 8 why don't you stop it. Why don't you stop it. 9
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, you are the one who --10
- 11 A. Why are you paying for something you can't
- 12 understand?
- 13 Q. I would like nothing better than to be able
- to understand what you say but you've refused to 14 participate. 15
- 16 A. I want the spelling of her name.
- 17 Q. Ms. Stevenson, you need to understand --
- 18 A. I need a spelling which is courteous.
- 19 Q. You're not going to get it. You're not
- going to take control of these proceedings. 20
- A. You didn't inform me that someone else was 21
- 22 going to sit in.
- 23 Q. I have no obligation to do that.
- A. You didn't inform me. 24

- 1 Q. I have no obligation to inform you of who is going to be here.
- 3 A. I want a spelling.
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, you will get a copy of Ms. 4
 - Meek's business card at a break.
- 6 A. I want a spelling. What's that exhibit 7 number.
- 8 Q. Ms. Stevenson, you need to stop interrupting 9 me
 - A. What's the exhibit number?
- Q. You need to listen to what I'm asking to 11
- 12

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- 13 A. What is the exhibit number?
- 14 Q. And you need to respond to what I'm saying
- to you. You need to stop trying to take control of 15 this proceeding. 16
 - A. What is the exhibit number?
- 18 Q. You need to stop trying to take control of
- this proceeding and respond to what I'm asking you. 19
 - A. I'm asking what was the exhibit number.
- 21 Q. Your job here is not to ask questions, Ms.
- 22 Stevenson. Your job here is to answer my questions.
- That is your only job and that is all you are 23
- permitted to do. You've already said that you

- 1 understood that with your cue card. Now, you need to participate in this deposition and you need to
- put your copy of the daily paper down so that you
- can listen to what I'm saying and respond to my
- 5 questions. For the record Ms. Stevenson has
- 6 declined to participate in this deposition. She's
- 7 now sitting at the opposite end of the room from the
- 8 court reporter and she's reading what appears to be
- 9 the daily paper. Now, Ms. Stevenson --
- 10 A. Now you're lying. I'm on the table one 11 chair from her.
 - Q. You're not where I've asked you to sit.
- 13 A. One chair from her.
- 14 Q. Can we agree that you're not where I've asked you to sit? 15
- 16 A. And the way you're posing me is I'm way 17 across the room. There is no across the room in
- 18 here. Don't lie.
- 19 Q. For the record the court reporter is at one end of the table, you are near the other end. 20
- A. No, I'm not near the other end. I'm a chair 21
- 22 from her. 23
- Q. You're right. There's one chair between you 24 and the court reporter.

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11 (Pages 825 to 828)

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1 A. Okay.

- Q. There's also seven feet between you and the court reporter.
- A. The way you're posing me, you're saying like I'm over in the corner.
- Q. You are farther from the court reporter than you reasonably should be.
- 8 A. No. That's what you want me to be. You 9 don't control this.
- 10 O. I do control this.

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first exhibit.

to answer your questions.

A. Yes, you did.

A. Yes, you did.

- 11 A. No, you don't. I want the spelling of her 12 name.
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, you're not in control of this proceeding.
- A. I want the spelling of her name.
- Q. This is an official court proceeding.
 - A. I want to know about the exhibit because

Q. You are to respond to my questions only.

A. -- to that exhibit and it's not. I've asked

directly shown you a specific part of that exhibit

and you refuse to answer the question about the

A. So I cannot cooberate the first exhibit.

Q. I haven't asked you to do that.

tried to read her daily paper rather than

will represent to you that your behavior this

20 orders. You have been ordered by two separate

23 You are utterly failing to do that, and you have

21 judges at the Federal bench to appear for deposition

and to cooperate in good faith in those proceedings.

Q. That's right, Ms. Stevenson. I'm not here

Q. We'll get back to that exhibit in a minute.

O. And for the record Ms. Stevenson has again

participate in these proceedings. Ms. Stevenson, I

morning constitutes contempt of two separate court

done everything you can to obstruct this deposition.

you a question. I've posed a question. I've

- 18 there's something on it unfamiliar to me.
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, we'll get to that.
- A. And I do not agree with the exhibit.
- Q. There's nothing for you to agree with.
- 22 There's no question pending.
- A. You asked me was it familiar.
 - Q. Your job here is as a witness.

- 1 And as I tried to say to you before you started
- 2 interrupting me, your behavior here has made this
- 3 take far longer than is reasonable and far longer
- 4 than is normal, and as such, if you continue to
- 5 refuse to participate in this deposition, there is
- 6 no chance that we're going to conclude this
- 7 proceeding here today, we're going to bring your
- 8 misconduct before the court and in all likelihood we
- 9 will have to attempt to continue your deposition on
- 10 another occasion. I've made that representation to
- 11 you. I assume you understand me despite the fact
- 12 that you're sitting with your back to the court
- 13 reporter and reading the daily paper. With that
- 14 understanding we'll move on.

Ms. Stevenson, you've registered some

- sort of complaint about the document that the court
- 17 reporter has marked as Exhibit 47. I've made this
- 18 available to you previously and you've had several
- 19 minutes to review it. For the record it's a
- 20 one-page document with less than ten lines of text.
- 21 I've placed it before you again as you've asked me
- 22 to do. Would you like an opportunity to review it
- 23 further?
- A. I asked what is this? Who is this?

Page 830

- A. You asked me was something familiar -- 1 Q. Ms. Stevenson, your job is not to ask
 - 2 questions. Your job is to answer questions. The
 - 3 question is, do you recognize this document --
 - 4 A. No
 - 5 Q. You don't recognize the document --
 - 6 A. No.
 - 7 Q. -- marked as Exhibit 47?
 - 8 A. No.
 - Q. Do you see a signature at the bottom of that
 - 10 page?
 - 11 A. No, I don't recognize it.
 - 12 Q. That's not the question. The question is,
 - 13 do you see a signature?
 - 14 A. Didn't I just say no?
 15 O. No. you said I don't
 - Q. No, you said I don't recognize the document.
 - A. You said is there a signature at the bottom
 - 17 of the page.
 - Q. And your response is no, I don't recognize
 - 19 the document.
 - A. I don't recognize the document.
 - Q. That's not the question. The question --
 - A. That's the answer.
 - Q. No, it's not.
 - A. Yes, it is.

12 (Pages 829 to 832)

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17

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- Q. It's not responsive, Ms. Stevenson --
- 2 A. Yes, it is.
- Q. -- and it's totally inappropriate.
- 4 A. Yes, it is.
 - Q. The question --
- 6 A. I answered it, no, I don't recognize the
- 7 document

5

- 8 Q. Okay. I understand your testimony that you
- 9 don't recognize the document. That question has
- 10 been asked, answered and we're moving on. The next
- 11 question is. Do you see a signature on the document
- marked as Exhibit 47?
- 13 A. No.
- Q. You don't see a signature on that page?
- A. I don't recognize the document.
- Q. That's not the question. We've established
- 17 that you claim not to recognize this document which
- 18 bears your signature. The question now is. Looking
- 19 at the document, do you see a signature on the
- 20 paper?
- A. I'm not looking at the document so I don't
- 22 see it
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, look at the document.
- A. I have a question about this document, its

Page 835

- A. I said I don't believe this is an authentic
- document that was presented to me whenever, whatever
- was supposed to have been done to it.
- 4 Q. Okay. I understand what you've said.
 - A. I think it's a forgery.
- 6 Q. I understand what you've said.
 - A. I need you to authenticate it.
- 8 Q. It's not my job to authenticate anything.
- 9 A. Well, I don't recognize anything about this.
- 10 I don't think it's valid. I don't think it's real.
- Q. I understand what you've say. Now, what I'm
- 12 asking you to do is put the newspaper away. Will
- 13 you do that?
- 14 A. Sure.
- Q. Please do. And put it back in your bag
- 16 where you got it.
 - A. Here. I'll put it right here.
- Q. Put it back in your bag where you got it.
- 19 Now, Ms. Stevenson, I've placed before you an
- 20 exhibit marked as No. 47. Please take a look at it.
- 21 A. I did
- Q. Do you see a signature on that page?
- 23 A. No.
- Q. You don't see a signature in the bottom

Page 834

- Page 836
- authenticity. I don't think this is a document and
- 2 I think it's a forgery.
- Q. You think that's a forgery of your
- 4 signature? For the record Ms. Stevenson is
- 5 continuing to look at what appears to be the fashion
- 6 section of the daily paper rather than the exhibit
- 7 placed in front of her. Now, Ms. Stevenson, I'm
- 8 going to ask you to put the paper down. Will you do
- 9 that?
- 10 A. What paper?
- Q. The newspaper sitting in your lap. I'm
- 12 going to ask you put that away.
- A. It's in my lap. I thought we was in a
- 14 deposition.
- Q. We are in a deposition.
- 16 A. Then why you concerned about what's in my
- 17 lap?
- Q. Because this is an official court proceeding
- 19 and you need to pay attention to what's going on in
- 20 rather than reading the paper.
- A. Didn't I answer the question?
- Q. No, you didn't.
- A. Yes, I did.
- Q. Ms. Stevenson --

- 1 center of the page?
- 2 A. No.

3

5

8

- Q. Will you look at the document?
- 4 A. I've looked at the document.
 - Q. You're not looking at it now. I'm going to
- 6 direct your attention specifically to the bottom
- 7 center of this page.
 - A. Um-hmm.
- 9 Q. Please look where I'm pointing to it.
- 10 A. Um-hmm.
- Q. You're not doing what I asked you to do.
- A. I've looked at the document and I've raised
- 13 my objections.
- Q. You can raise your objections, but as has
- 15 been made clear to you. You can make whatever
- 16 objection you want and then you must respond to the
- 17 question.
- 18 A. I just did.
- Q. No, you did not. The question is. Look at
- 20 where I'm pointing on the document.
- A. Um-hmm.
- Q. Will you do that? You're not looking at the
- 23 document. You're looking at me.
- A. Um-hmm.

13 (Pages 833 to 836)

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24

Q. But you say you see no signature at all?

A. I don't see my signature.

Q. That's not what I asked you.

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Page 837 Page 839 1 Q. Do you see a signature there? 1 A. Then who's signature is this? 2 A. Uh-uh. Q. I'm not here to answer you question, Ms. 3 Q. You don't see a signature? Stevenson. The question pending to you was --3 4 A. Uh-uh. 4 A. Why should I verify someone else's 5 O. So for the record Ms. Stevenson has 5 signature? testified under oath that she doesn't see a document 6 Q. Your job is to answer any question I pose to 7 7 -- strike that. Ms. Stevenson has testified under you. That's your purpose for being here. 8 oath that she doesn't see a signature in the center 8 A. Then whose is it? of the document that we've marked as Exhibit 47. 9 Q. Ms. Stevenson, your job is not to ask me That's your testimony under oath, you don't see a 10 questions. Your job, your only job and the only 10 signature? thing you are permitted to do here today is to 11 11 A. I don't see a signature. 12 12 answer my questions. It's not to ask questions of 13 Q. Well, I'll represent for the record that, in 13 me. It's not to debate with me. It's not to engage in any of this other misconduct. This can be go 14 fact, this is an errata sheet that was prepared to 14 15 the first session of Ms. Stevenson's deposition and, 15 very smoothly, very quickly if you cooperate. Now, in fact, the jurat reads, "Signed under the pains I'm going to give you an opportunity to do this 16 17 and penalties of perjury this 4th day of October 17 again. Do you understand that the statements you 18 2006," and under that appears the signature of 18 make here today are made under oath? Janice L. Stevenson. Now, Ms. Stevenson, you 19 19 Q. You don't understand that? 20 20 understand that your statements here today are made 21 under oath; is that right? 21 A. No. 22 A. No. 22 Q. What about that do you not understand? 23 Q. You don't understand that you are under 23 A. I don't believe I should be lying. 24 24 oath? Q. You understand that you have been sworn in Page 838 Page 840 1 by the court reporter; is that right? A. No. 2 Q. You recall the court reporter swearing you 2 A. I thought you asked me another question. 3 3 in? Q. I'm trying to clarify your testimony. 4 4 A. Yes. 5 5 Q. And she told you that the statements you Q. You understood that you were sworn in by the 6 6 make here today you are swearing to the truth, the court reporter? 7 7 whole truth --A. Yes. 8 8 A. Yes. Q. And you understood that by giving you that 9 Q. -- and nothing but the truth? 9 oath --10 10 A. I'm not going to lie. 11 Q. So you do understand that you're under oath? 11 Q. And the statements you make here are made 12 A. I understand, and I just told you I had a 12 under oath and subject to the pains and penalties of 13 question about this sheet of paper. 13 perjury? Q. Ms. Stevenson, you're being completely 14 14 A. Yeah. obstructionist. That's fine. I understand your 15 O. You do understand that? 15 testimony. We're moving on to another subject. 16 16 17 A. And it's a forgery. 17 Q. So you do understand that the statements you 18 Q. We're moving on to another subject. 18 make here today are made under oath? 19 A. It's a forgery. 19 A. Okav. Q. It's a forgery? Q. You do understand that, yes? 20 20 A. Yes. 21 21

14 (Pages 837 to 840)

Q. I'm going to need a yes or no response. You

do understand that the statements you're making here

22

23

are made under oath?

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| | Page 841 | | Page 843 |
|--|--|--|---|
| 1 | A. I've answered the question. | 1 | A. I see the paper. |
| 2 | Q. I don't care if you've answered the | 2 | Q. But we need to back up a little bit because |
| 3 | question. You need to answer | 3 | you've given some inconsistent responses. |
| 4 | A. I've answered the question. | 4 | A. No, no. I've given answer you don't want on |
| 5 | Q. That's not responsive. | 5 | the record. |
| 6 | A. Yes, it is. | 6 | Q. No, I want a clear record. |
| 7 | Q. No. Ms. Stevenson, you need to answer | 7 | A. I've answered the question. |
| 8 | A. I've answered the question. | 8 | Q. You don't even know what the question is. |
| 9 | Q. That's not a proper objection. | 9 | A. I've answered it. You keep asking the same |
| 10 | A. I've answered the question. It's not an | 10 | one. |
| 11 | objection. I've answered the question. | 11 | Q. Which is entirely my right to do if you keep |
| 12 | Q. And you need to answer it again. If I pose | 12 | giving inconsistent responses. Now, Ms. Stevenson, |
| 13 | the same question to you twice | 13 | I've asked you to put the paper away. You keep |
| 14 | A. I've answered the question. | 14 | looking at this newspaper. |
| 15 | Q. You have not answered the question. | 15 | A. No, I'm not. I'm looking at this. |
| 16 | A. I've answered the question. | 16 | Q. What is that? |
| 17 | Q. To the extent that you've responded to it, | 17 | A. These are my cue cards. You say you can't |
| 18 | you've given inconsistent responses. | 18 | hear me. You say you don't understand me. |
| 19 | A. I've answered the question. | 19 | Q. I've asked you to put the newspaper away in |
| 20 | Q. You need to stop interrupting. | 20 | your bag. You refuse to do that; is that right? |
| 21 | A. I've answered the question. | 21 | A. The newspaper is not a factor here. |
| 22 | Q. You have not answered. | 22 | Q. The newspaper is a factor here. |
| 23 | A. It is the answer. | 23 | A. This exhibit it. This is a forgery. |
| 24 | Q. All right. I'm going to make the record | 24 | Q. All right. Ms. Stevenson, I've asked you to |
| | Page 842 | | Page 844 |
| | | | |
| 1 | clear. I'm going to give you an opportunity to do | 1 | put the newspaper away. You've declined to do that; |
| 2 | this one more time. | 2 | is that right? |
| 2 | this one more time. A. I've answered the question. | 2 | is that right? A. No. |
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4 | this one more time. A. I've answered the question. Q. Then you need to answer it again. | 2
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4 | is that right? A. No. Q. It's still sitting on the table. |
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5 | this one more time. A. I've answered the question. Q. Then you need to answer it again. A. I do not recognize this sheet of paper. | 2
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5 | is that right? A. No. Q. It's still sitting on the table. A. I have put it away. |
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22 | is that right? A. No. Q. It's still sitting on the table. A. I have put it away. Q. I'm going to ask you to put it in your bag. A. No, I'm not going to put it my bag. It's away. Q. It's away. It's on the table in front of you ane you A. No, it's not in front of me. The exhibit is in front of me. Q. For the record the exhibit is immediately in front of Ms. Stevenson, the newspaper is in front of her left arm by about 12 inches. Is that right? A. Is this about the exhibit? Q. No, Ms. Stevenson. I'm trying to back up so that we can proceed through this in a reasonable and A. You keep backing up. You keep on about being behind. Q. Ms. Stevenson, the reason we're behind is |
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21 | this one more time. A. I've answered the question. Q. Then you need to answer it again. A. I do not recognize this sheet of paper. Q. That's not the question. A. I cannot verify anything on this paper. Q. What I'm asking you, Ms. Stevenson A. I cannot verify. Q. I haven't asked you to verify anything. A. Yes, you are. Q. Don't ask me what I'm asking you, Ms. Stevenson. A. You asked me to verify this. Q. It's unresponsive to the question. A. That's my understanding. Q. It's unresponsive to the question. A. That's my understanding. You want me to verify this piece of paper. Q. And I'm telling you that your understanding is false, it's wrong. That's not what I'm asking | 2
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21 | is that right? A. No. Q. It's still sitting on the table. A. I have put it away. Q. I'm going to ask you to put it in your bag. A. No, I'm not going to put it my bag. It's away. Q. It's away. It's on the table in front of you ane you A. No, it's not in front of me. The exhibit is in front of me. Q. For the record the exhibit is immediately in front of Ms. Stevenson, the newspaper is in front of her left arm by about 12 inches. Is that right? A. Is this about the exhibit? Q. No, Ms. Stevenson. I'm trying to back up so that we can proceed through this in a reasonable and A. You keep backing up. You keep on about being behind. |

15 (Pages 841 to 844)

21 Stevenson, right?

A. I can't verify that.

Q. You can't tell me what that says?

A. I can't verify the signature.

22

23

24

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| Page 847 |
|---|
| Q. I'm not asking you to verify the A. Yes, you have. Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'll tell you what the questions are. A. This is how I see it. It is, it is my perception you want me to lie? Q. No, Ms. Stevenson. I want you to cooperate in this deposition. A. Because if I say yes, it will be a lie and I've taken an oath. You want me to perjure purger myself? Q. Ms. Stevenson, you've already perjured yourself A. When? A. When? Q throughout this proceeding. A. When? I've never lied. Q. You have repeatedly perjured yourself and it's established on the record. A. Show me the record. Show me the record. You just said I perjured myself? |
| Q. That's right.A. I take my oath seriously. |
| Q. All right. A. Now why are you calling me a liar? |
| Page 848 |
| Q. We have established A. Stop it. Q. We have established A. Stop it. Q that there's a signature at the bottom of Exhibit 47. A. That's what you tell me. Q. Now, that was your testimony. A. No. Q. Ms. Stevenson, you testified a few moments ago A. No, no, no. I answered your question. You testified and Q. I'm not here to testify. My only job is to ask questions. The question I asked of you a few minutes ago was whether you see a signature written at the bottom center of Exhibit 47, and you testified that you did. Do you recall that? A. I recall that. Q. Okay. So we've established that there's a |
| |

16 (Pages 845 to 848)

21 signature at the bottom center of this page?

A. Now you want me to verify it.

A. Yes, you did.

Q. I haven't asked you to do anything.

22

23

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| | Page 849 | | Page 851 | |
|----|--|----|---|--|
| 1 | Q. You can't jump ahead of my questions. You | 1 | not going to respond to your questions. Your job is | |
| 2 | need to respond | 2 | to listen to my questions and answers them. | |
| 3 | A. No, I'm jumping back. | 3 | A. I did. | |
| 4 | Q only to what I'm ask you. I'm the one | 4 | Q. You certainly did not. | |
| 5 | that controls the pace of this proceeding. I'm the | 5 | A. I did. | |
| 6 | one that poses the questions | 6 | Q. Now, we've established that there's a | |
| 7 | A. Well, you keep going back. | 7 | signature in the bottom center of this page. | |
| 8 | Q and your only job which is my right to | 8 | A. I can't verify it for you. | |
| 9 | do. Now, Ms. Stevenson, we've established the | 9 | Q. I haven't asked you to verify the accuracy | |
| 10 | signature in the bottom | 10 | of this signature. | |
| 11 | A. Who is this? | 11 | A. I can't verify even if it's the person whose | |
| 12 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, your job is to for the | 12 | name is written above. | |
| 13 | record | 13 | Q. And, in fact, the person whose name is typed | |
| 14 | A. See, I keep asking about Exhibit 47. | 14 | on this document is you; is that right? | |
| 15 | Q. For the record I'm going to try to explain | 15 | A. That's | |
| 16 | to you what's going on here and I'm going to | 16 | Q. This is Janice Stevenson. Do you see that? | |
| 17 | represent to you that it's not my job here to answer | 17 | A. I see the typewritten information. | |
| 18 | your questions. My job here is to take your | 18 | Q. And, in fact, it says Janice L. Stevenson; | |
| 19 | testimony under oath, and you're interfering with | 19 | is that right? | |
| 20 | that to a remarkable degree. And as far as | 20 | A. I see the typewritten information. | |
| 21 | Neighborhood House is concerned, you are in | 21 | Q. That's not responsive to my question. | |
| 22 | continued contempt of two separate Court Orders. | 22 | A. Yes, it is. | |
| 23 | But as part of an effort to move this forward, I'm | 23 | Q. No. My question is. The typewritten | |
| 24 | going to explain to you the issue that you've | 24 | information that you see says Janice L. Stevenson; | |
| | Page 850 | | Page 852 | |
| 1 | pointed out with Exhibit 47. | 1 | is that right? | |
| 2 | A. Why don't you just | 2 | A. I see it. | |
| 3 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop it. Exhibit 47 is | 3 | Q. I'm not asking you what you see. I need you | |
| 4 | marked with a sticker supplied by the court | 4 | to respond yes or no. | |
| 5 | reporter. That's what makes it an exhibit. It has | 5 | A. Yes, I see it. | |
| 6 | your name, exhibit number, No. 47 and a date below | 6 | Q. You see it and it says Janice L. Stevenson? | |
| 7 | and the letters MJ Manzi are the letters of the | 7 | A. Yes, I see it. | |
| 8 | court reporter. Do you understand that? | 8 | Q. I'm not asking you if you see it. | |
| 9 | A. Okay. | 9 | A. That's the answer. | |
| 10 | Q. So does that answer your question? | 10 | Q. That is not the answer. | |
| 11 | A. Yes. Why didn't you just answer | 11 | A. That is the answer. | |
| 12 | O It's not my job to answer your questions | 12 | O Ms Stevenson you are being extraordinarily | |

12 Q. It's not my job to answer your questions.

13 A. You answered it now.

14 Q. I'm answering it in a good faith effort to

try to move this forward. I'm not going to answer 15

your question. I'm not --16

A. No, you're not.

18 Q. Now, please just participate in this

19 proceeding and we can try to move this along.

A. Can she verify whose signature this is? 20

21 Q. Ms. Stevenson, your job here is not to ask

22 me questions.

17

24

23 A. Can she verify whose signature this is?

Q. I don't know how other to tell you that I'm

12

Q. Ms. Stevenson, you are being extraordinarily

13 evasive for no reason whatsoever.

14 A. It's not evasive.

15 O. It is evasive.

16 A. It is not. You want me to lie.

17 Q. No, Ms. Stevenson.

18 A. You want me to lie.

19 Q. I want you to cooperate.

A. You want me to verify something. 20

Q. I haven't asked you to verify anything. 21

22 A. You asked me to verify and I can't.

23 Q. I am not asking you to verify anything.

A. Yes. That's my perception as a reasonable

17 (Pages 849 to 852)

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1 person.

5

- 2 Q. Ms. Stevenson, you are so far from
- reasonable now it's beyond explanation. Your 3
- 4 behavior here --
 - A. You were banging on the desk.
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, your behavior here is 6
- 7 completely inexcusable.
- 8 A. You are banging.
- 9 Q. You are in contempt of two separate Court 10 Orders.
- A. I don't remember those. 11
- 12 Q. You don't remember the Court Orders that you
- 13 appear --
- 14 A. Do you have a copy?
- 15 Q. Ms. Stevenson, your job is not to engage in
- a debate with me. 16
- 17 A. Do you have a copy?
- 18 Q. I'm not going to answer your questions. I'm
- not going to let you take control of this 19
- 20 proceeding.
- A. Can you verify this for me? 21
- 22 Q. I'm not verifying anything for you, Ms.
- Stevenson. My job here is to ask you questions. 23
 - A. These are unverified exhibits.

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- Q. I understand your statement. It's not my 1 2 job to present verified documents for you. Your --
- 3 A. So can you present false documents in a deposition?
- 5 Q. Ms. Stevenson, I can set anything I want in
- front of you. You're here as a witness. 6
- 7 A. You want me to agree to it?
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, all I can do is show you 8
- 9 documents --
- 10 A. And --
- 11 Q. Stop interrupting. All I can do is show you
- documents. Stop interrupting me, Ms. Stevenson. 12
- A. Am I yelling? 13
- 14 Q. No, you're talking over me.
- A. I'm not talking over you. 15
- Q. You are. You are interrupting me repeatedly 16
- and you need to stop. And as we established. You 17
- 18 need to let me get what I'm saying out before you
- 19 respond.
- A. You've changed the mood of this deposition 20
- from the moment you banged on that desk. 21
- 22 Q. I'm not going to respond to that, Ms.
- 23 Stevenson.
- 24 A. Well, you're banging.

- 1 Q. I haven't banged on anything.
- 2 A. The record will reflect you're banging.
- 3 Q. The record will reflect only spoken
- 4 statements.

5

10

- A. You banged at me.
- 6 Q. Are you done?
- 7 A. Are you going to be angry?
- 8 Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm just here to take your
- 9 deposition.
 - A. Then take it. Don't be angry.
- O. Ms. Stevenson --11
- A. You don't have to have an attitude to take a 12
- 13 deposition.
- 14 Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm going to take a
- 15 deposition how I see fit.
- A. Attitude, anger, your belligerent banging, 16
- 17 that's not valid. Would you be doing that if I was
- 18 a man?
- 19 Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm not going to let you
- 20 control this proceeding. I'm not going to let you
- 21 control the pace of it. I'm not going to let you
- control the tone of it. I'm going to ask the
- 23 questions as I see fit --
- 24 A. Oh, oh. But you can interject in an angry

Page 856

1 tone.

5

8

- 2 Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm going to ask the
- questions the way that I see fit and the way that I
- see fit happening.
 - A. No. I'm going to object.
- 6 Q. You can object and that's all you can do.
- 7 You can object and move on.
 - A. I'm going to file a complaint.
- 9 Q. Ms. Stevenson, you're in contempt of two
- separate Court Orders and --10
- A. You're not a judge. 11
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, you've already been ruled in 12
- 13 contempt of Court Orders.
- 14
- 15 Q. I'm going to try and move this forward
- because you've asked to see the Court Orders 16
- pertaining to your appearance here today. I'm 17
- 18 showing you a document that was marked as Exhibit 45
- 19 at a prior session of your deposition for which you
- failed to appear. 20
- A. Then how do I know what happened at the 21
- 22 deposition?
- 23 Q. That's not relevant. I'm just telling you
- why the document is marked 45. 24

18 (Pages 853 to 856)

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- 1 A. Then why you give me 45 -- this is 47.
- 2 Q. That's right. And the reason that this
- document is marked 45, an earlier number than 47 is 3
- because we marked it at the last session of your
- deposition for which you failed to appear.
- 6 A. I wasn't here.
- 7 Q. That's what I just said.
- 8 A. Then how can I verify a document when I
- 9 wasn't there?
- Q. I'm not asking you to verifying anything 10 11
- that happened there.
- A. Well, I can't review documents for a 12
- 13 deposition I wasn't there.
- Q. The only thing that's pertinent to the 14
- session of your deposition that you didn't show up 15
- on is why this is numbered 45. You've asked why 16
- this is numbered 47, the document that we marked 17
- 18 today.
- A. 46. 19
- 20 Q. We'll get to that, Ms. Stevenson.
- 21 A. Is this still regarding the deposition when
- 22 I wasn't there?
- Q. Yes, we marked two exhibits. 23
- 24 A. I can't review documents at a deposition

as Exhibit 45.

- 2 A. Well, if there was no one was at that
- 3 deposition but attorneys --
 - Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop asking me questions. It
- 5 serves no purpose. Your job here is to just sit there and answer the questions I ask you. You're
- 7
- not allowed to ask me questions and I'm not going to answer them. Now, I've placed before you an exhibit
- 9 marked as No. 45. I'll represent to you that it's a
- Court Order in this matter. Please take your time 10
- 11 and take a look at it.
 - A. Well, what is it about?
- 13 Q. I'm not going to give you any information.
- My job is not to testify here today. I've placed 14
- the document before you. It's a Court Order in this 15
- proceeding --16 17
 - A. Oh, so this Court Order isn't final?
- 18 Q. That's not the question, Ms. Stevenson.
- 19 A. It's pending review.
- 20 Q. No, Ms. Stevenson. I'm not going to
- 21 entertain your legal debate with me.
- 22 A. Yes, it is.
- Q. Your only job is to look at the document 23
- 24 I've placed before you.

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Page 860

- when I wasn't there.
- 2 Q. Well, you couldn't review them when you
- weren't there. You can review them now. 3
- A. Well, I wasn't there.
- 5 Q. That's right. Now, I'm placing before you a document marked Exhibit 45. 6
- 7 A. But I wasn't there.
- O. I put it before you. Understood. 8
- 9 A. Then how can I verify something when I wasn't there? 10
- 11 Q. I'm not asking you to verify anything about
- 12 what happened there. 13 A. How can I if I wasn't there?
- 14 Q. I'm not asking you ab out what happened
- 15 there.
- 16 A. You said a deposition.
- 17 Q. I'm telling you that's when the No. 45 was
- 18 affixed to that document.
- 19 A. But I wasn't there.
- Q. Fine. We've established that. 20
- 21 A. But I can't verify something when I wasn't
- 22 there.
- 23 Q. I haven't asked you to verify anything. Ms.
- Stevenson, I've placed before you a document marked

- A. I don't recognize it.
- 2 Q. You don't recognize the order of the court
 - placed before you, that's your testimony?
- 4 A. No, because it's under review.
- 5 Q. How do you know it's under review if you
- 6 don't recognize it?
 - A. I don't recognize it.
 - Q. Then how do you know it's under review?
- A. Because it's the last thing filed in this 9
- claim. Whose order is this? Is it Woodlock's? 10
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, take your time and review the 11 12 document --
- 13 A. Who signed it?
- 14 Q. -- it will answer all your questions. Let
- me know when you've had a chance to review it. 15
- A. There's no signature on this. 16
- 17 Q. Let me know when you've had a chance to
- 18 review the document.
- 19 A. I don't understand this.
- Q. I haven't asked you to understand anything. 20
- A. I haven't finished reviewing it. I don't 21
- 22 understand it.
- 23 Q. Take your time to review it to the --
- A. Can I take it with me? 24

19 (Pages 857 to 860)

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Janice L. Stevenson, Vol. 4 02/22/2007 Page 861 Page 863 1 Q. I'll send you a copy of it after this read it back. proceeding just as I've done with all the other Q. You're not going to have her do anything, 3 3 exhibits. Ms. Stevenson. A. I'd like to review it over night. 4 A. Yeah. You're saying something you're not 5 O. Ms. Stevenson, it's a five page document in 5 remembering. That's scary. double spaced type. Take your time and review it 6 Q. Ms. Stevenson --6 7 7 A. You said, "none of which may adequately be 8 A. It's going to take me an hour. 8 described as routine." The judge is saying, that 9 Q. It's going to take you an hour to read a 9 means I'm behaving misconduct and other trifle --Q. I'm not going to engage in a debate with five page document? 10 10 A. Well, didn't you ask me to review it? 11 11 you. 12 Q. Take your time. 12 A. It's not a debate. 13 A. Review, familiarize, that's a long time. 13 Q. I'm not going to have a discussion with you Q. Take a look at it sufficient to determine 14 14 about the meaning of Magistrate Judge Alexander's whether or not you recognize it and let me know when 15 order. 15 you've done that. 16 16 A. Do you understand what I'm saying then? 17 A. Can I go sit out there? 17 Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm not here to respond to 18 18 your questions. The only thing you have to do right Q. No. A. You're going to stay here and look at me? now is take a look at that document --19 20 20 A. You told me to review it. Q. Yes. 21 A. 12/20. And who is MD O'Connor? 21 Q. That's right. 22 Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm not going to answer your 22 A. Okay. I'm reviewing it. questions. That's not the purpose of this Q. And when you've had a chance to do that 23 24 sufficiently -proceeding. I've marked the document that you need Page 862 Page 864 to review. Let me know when you've done that. And 1 A. If I have questions, who am I going to ask? for the record Exhibit 45 is Magistrate Judge Q. No one. Take a look at it and when you've Alexander's order of November 7, 2006. It's a five 3 had a chance to familiarize yourself with it page double spaced document. sufficient to tell whether or not --5 5 A. See, I don't understand this. What do they A. I can't -mean by "none of which may be adequately -- "none of 6 Q. Stop interrupting me. When you've had a 7 which may adequately be described as routine"? What 7 chance to review the document, I will --

8

12

does that mean?

8 9

Q. That's Magistrate Judge Alexander's representation that you have engaged in misconduct 10 in this matter by filing frivolous motions. And I'm 11

12 not going to go through here and explain Magistrate Judge Alexander's order to you. The question on the 13

table is. Have you had enough chance to familiarize

yourself with the document sufficient to determine 15

whether or not you've seen it before? 16

17 A. No.

18 Q. All right. You need more time to review the 19 document; is that right?

20 A. So you're saying --

Q. I'm not saying anything. 21

22 A. Yes, you did. You just said it.

23 Q. The question is --

24 A. It's on the record. I'm going to have her A. Will you listen to me?

9 Q. I will let you speak when I get my statement 10

11 A. I haven't finished.

Q. You need to stop interrupting me.

13 A. Because every time you make a statement and

14 I have a question, you don't want to hear my 15 questions.

16

Q. It's not my job to answer your questions.

17 I'm not going to do that.

18 A. But if I have a question about this, who's 19 going to answer it before I can truthfully without

perjury respond to it? 20

Q. Ms. Stevenson, none of my questions are 21 22 going to call you to commit any kind of perjury.

23 A. You wanted me to last time.

Q. The questions I'm going to ask you relate to

20 (Pages 861 to 864)

12

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- your familiarity with the document.
- A. I'm not familiar. I'm reading it now.
- 3 Q. All right. Take a look at it and let me
- know when you've gotten a chance to familiarize yourself with it.
- 6 A. This is review. I objected to whatever that 7 woman said.
- 8 Q. Let me know when you've had a chance to 9 review the document.
- A. What does this mean? 10
- Q. I'm not going to answer your questions, Ms. 11
- 12 Stevenson. Your job is to review that document and
- 13 let me know when you've had a chance to take a look
- 14

2

- 15 A. Can I mark this --
- 16 Q. No, don't mark the document.
- 17 A. Can I get a copy?
- 18 Q. I will send you a copy of the document.
- We've already established it's an order of the 19
- court. Ms. Stevenson, your only job is to review 20
- 21 the document.
- 22 A. What does this mean?
- 23 Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm not going to answer your
- questions and I don't know how many times I'm going

Page 867

- 1 A. I don't think I have access to court like
- attorneys do. Maybe it's a race thing, but I don't
 - have the same access.
- 4 Q. Ms. Stevenson, we understand that you 5 filed --
 - A. How can you understand I have access?
- 7 Q. Ms. Stevenson, let me get this statement
- out. We understand that you have filed objections
- to the Magistrate Judge's order. It is our position
- that Judge Woodlock took up those objections at the 10
- January 23rd hearing and overruled them. 11
 - A. Well, he was wrong in doing that.
- 13 Q. Well, I'm sure he'll be happy to hear your 14 views on that.
- 15 A. Yeah, and I'm appealing that. I haven't finished. I haven't finished. 16
- 17 Q. I just want to bring your attention to a
- 18 specific document so we can move on. 19
 - A. Do you want me to read it?
- 20 Q. I'm going to give you an opportunity to do
- 21 that. You asked to take a break. You've had this
- 22 five page document for probably 15 minutes now. But
- I want you to look at a specific section of the
- document so that we can try and move this thing

Page 866

Page 868

- to have to tell you this. Your only job is to read
- 2 the document and tell me whether you've seen it
- 3 before.

7

- A. This is a lot to read. Can we take a break?
- 5 Q. Why don't we try to get through a few questions and then I'll take a break. 6
 - A. The questions I have?
- 8 Q. I'm not going to answer any of your
- 9 questions. I just want to establish some very
- basic. For the record Exhibit 45 is a five page 10
- double spaced document. You've had more than 15 11
- 12 minutes to review it. It's a document you've seen
- 13 before. It's an order of the court that's been
- brought to your attention not only at the Magistrate 14
- 15 Judge proceedings but again by Judge Woodlock at a hearing of January 23rd. 16
- 17 A. Yes, and I've objected to and raised
- 18 portions which no one has answered.
- 19 Q. Well, Ms. Stevenson, I'll just represent to
- you that we understand that you filed objections to 20
- the Magistrate Judges's order. 21
- 22 A. No one answered it, and I don't think that's
- 23 fair.
- 24 Q. Ms. Stevenson, it is our possession that --

- 1 forward. I want you to look at page 3 of the
- document. For the record I've turned the document
- 3 to page 3 for Ms. Stevenson. And I want you to look
- at paragraph 4 of the Magistrate Judge's order.
- 5 Have you had a chance to review that page?
- 6 A. I'm reading.
 - Q. Okay. Now, I want you to take a look at
 - paragraph 4 where it states that "Plaintiff's
- 9 deposition will continue." Do you see that?
 - A. Okay. Right here?
- Q. Do you see that, "Plaintiff's deposition 11
- 12 will continue"? 13

7

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10

19

- A. Um-hmm.
- 14 Q. You understand that Magistrate Judge
- 15 Alexander in response to our Motion to Compel
- ordered you to appear for further deposition 16
- 17 proceedings?
- 18 A. Um-hmm.
 - Q. You understand that to be the significance
- of that language? 20
- A. Under 4? You mean the paragraph language? 21
- 22 Q. You understand that Magistrate Judge
- 23 Alexander ordered you to appear for further
- deposition; is that right?

21 (Pages 865 to 868)

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10

14

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- 1 A. It says here -- it gives a date though.
- 2 Q. That's right. She ordered you to appear on
- a certain date. Do you understand that? 3
- A. I read that. 4

5

7

- Q. And, in fact, you failed to show up on that
- 6 date; is that right?
 - A. Yeah, but we discussed this already.
- 8 Q. What we discussed already is of no
- 9 importance but we'll move on. You understand that
- Magistrate Judge Alexander ordered you to appear, 10
- and she goes on to state in her written order that 11
- 12 "Plaintiff may assert any appropriate objections she
- 13 wishes during the deposition, and the court will
- 14 liberally interpret the validity of any objection or
- lack thereof based on her pro se status, but is 15
- 16 hereby ordered to answer every question posed by
- 17 defendant in an honest clear, concise and coherent
- 18 manner." Do you see that?
- A. Yeah. I've lived up to that. 19
- 20 Q. Ms. Stevenson, you have done nothing of the
- 21 kind.
- 22 A. Stop it. See, you're accusing me.
- 23 Q. What you're doing right now is an example.
 - That's right, Ms. Stevenson. You have engaged in

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- Q. If you are a reasonable person, you have
- certainly engaged in unreasonable behavior.
- 3 A. And I have reasonably complied with the 4 directions.
- 5 Q. Well, Ms. Stevenson, in fact, Judge Woodlock
- told you at the January 23rd hearing in this matter
- 7 that you had failed to comply with those
- 8 instructions and that you were in contempt of court.
- 9 Do you recall that?
 - A. No.
- 11 Q. You don't recall that?
- 12 A. You got a transcript of that?
- 13 Q. Let's mark that.
 - (Marked, Exhibit 48, transcript of the
- 15 January 23, 2007 hearing.)
- Q. For the record Ms. Stevenson has testified 16 17
- that she does not recall Judge Woodlock instructing
- 18 her that she was, in fact, in contempt of Magistrate 19
 - Judge Alexander's order?
- 20 A. No, I don't recall her exact words and you 21
- say you were quoting her exact words.
- 22 Q. And Ms. Stevenson has asked for a transcript
- of those proceedings. We've marked that transcript 23
 - as Exhibit 48. And I would direct your attention,

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- serious misconduct in the prior sessions of
- 2 depositions.
- 3 A. Not I've been honest.
- 4 O. You've been obstructionist.
- 5 A. I've been honest.
- 6 Q. I'm going to instruct you --
- 7 A. And I'm going to re-represent --
- O. Are you done? I'm going to represent to you 8
- 9 that the Magistrate Judge has ordered you to respond
- 10 to, and I quote, every question posed --
- 11 A. I have.
- 12 Q. -- in this matter.
- 13 A. I have.
- 14 Q. You can't refuse to answer on the grounds
- 15 that you think you've answered some question before 16
- or because --
- 17 A. Well, she didn't say I had to reanswer. She 18 said every question posed.
- 19 Q. That's right, every question.
- 20 A. And I've answered.
- 21 Q. Well, Ms. Stevenson, I will represent to you
- 22 that NHC's interpretation of this order and of Judge
- 23 Woodlock's order --
- 24 A. I am a reasonable person.

- Ms. Stevenson, to the top of page 14 where Judge
- Woodlock said to you, and I quote, "You're in
- 3 violation of a Court Order," and you responded --
- 4 A. And I --
- 5 Q. Let me get the question out. And you
- 6 responded, "Well, no, sir." And he responded to
- 7 you, "Yes, you are in violation of a Court Order.
- 8 Judge Magistrate Alexander was clear. You have an
- 9 obligation to appear before a deposition. You don't
- 10 get to make your own choices about whether or not
- 11 you appear or don't appear. You are ordered to
- appear and you didn't." I'm going to show you that 12
- 13 in the transcript at the top of page 14. 14
 - A. Where did you get this from?
- 15 Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm not going to answer your
- questions. That's not my job here. For this to 16 17
- move forward at all, and I will tell you, we've made 18 no progress here today, you need to cooperate in
- 19 response to my questions rather than trying to pick 20 apart everything I set in front of you.
- 21
- Ms. Stevenson, have you had an 22 opportunity to review page 14 of that transcript?
- 23 A. I was reading it, trying to get --
 - Q. What I want you to do is take a look at page

22 (Pages 869 to 872)

23 your deposition to your post office box just like

24 I've done every other time.

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| | Page 873 | | Page 875 |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1 | 14. | 1 | A. Can you send this to me PDF? |
| 2 | A. You're taking it out of context. | 2 | Q. No. I want you to understand that Judge |
| 3 | Q. I'm not asking you to take anything out of | 3 | Woodlock told you that you were, in fact, in |
| 4 | context. I'm asking you if you can rea the text | 4 | contempt of Magistrate Judge Alexander's order. Do |
| 5 | that I read to you. | 5 | you understand that? |
| 6 | A. Yeah, but I don't know what he said before | 6 | A. No. |
| 7 | that. | 7 | Q. You don't understand that's what he said? |
| 8 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, you're not here to give me | 8 | A. I'm not in violation. |
| 9 | instructions. I'm going to give you a few minutes | 9 | Q. I'm not asking you if you're in violation. |
| 10 | to review that transcript. But I'm telling you that | 10 | I'm asking you do you understand that Judge Woodlock |
| 11 | the purpose of my placing it before you is | 11 | told you you're in violation of a Court Order? |
| 12 | A. Am I going to get a copy of this? | 12 | A. It's kind of iffy. |
| 13 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, you will get a copy of all | 13 | Q. It's not iffy in the lease. I want you to |
| 14 | the exhibits to your deposition at the end of the | 14 | look at the first line of page 14 of that |
| 15 | day. We'll mail them to your post office box. I | 15 | transcript. |
| 16 | want to tell you, that the purpose of me setting | 16 | A. Well, look at the context. |
| 17 | that transcript before you is very limited. You | 17 | Q. I want you to look at the first line of page |
| 18 | have been twice ordered by the court to appear for | 18 | 14. |
| 19 | and cooperate in this deposition. You have failed | 19 | A. Look at the context. |
| 20 | to do that. You failed to do it by refusing to | 20 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm familiar with the entire |
| 21 | appear on December 20th. And as Judge Woodlock told | 21 | transcript. |
| 22 | you at the January 23rd hearing, by doing that you | 22 | A. Well, I'm not. |
| 23 | are in contempt of Magistrate Judge Alexander's | 23 | Q. I want you to look at the first line of page |
| 24 | order. I am telling you now that your behavior here | 24 | 14. |
| | Page 874 | | Page 876 |
| 1 | today refusing to answer the questions that I've | 1 | A. Well, look at the context. |
| 2 | asked you and interrupting me constantly and not | 2 | Q. I'm not going to do that, Ms. Stevenson. |
| 3 | allowing us to take measures that would provide a | 3 | I'm not going to let you take control of this |
| 4 | clear transcript is further contempt of both | 4 | deposition. I want you to look at the first line of |
| 5 | Magistrate Judge Alexander's order | 5 | page 14. |
| 6 | A. See | 6 | A. I cannot agree to that. |
| 7 | Q and Judge Woodlock's order. | 7 | Q. Then I'm going to say to you, that the first |
| 8 | A. If you can back up. You're not in violation | 8 | line, page 14 line 1 reads, "THE COURT: You are in |
| 9 | of the order because reasonably there are no more | 9 | violation of a Court Order." Do you see those words |
| 10 | triable issues. | 10 | on the page? |
| 11 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm not asking for your | 11 | A. I see them. |
| 12 | opinion and I'm not interested in it. | 12 | Q. Do you now understand that Judge Woodlock |
| 13 | A. Well, it's not an opinion. That's what I | 13 | told you that you were in violation of Magistrate |
| 14 | said. | 14 | Judge Alexander's order? |
| 15 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, Judge Woodlock told you that | 15 | A. I don't agree with that. |
| 16 | you are in contempt of an order. Those words appear | 16 | Q. I'm not asking if you agree with that. I'm |
| 17 | in the transcript. Do you see them? It's the first | 17 | asking if you understand what he told you? |
| 18 | line of page 14. | 18 | A. No. |
| 19 | A. I was reading down. Can I get a copy of | 19 | Q. You don't understand what he told you? |
| 20 | this? | 20 | A. No. |
| 21 | | 21 | |
| | Q. Ms. Stevenson, I've told you at the end of | | Q. What about that is unclear to you? |
| 22 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, I've told you at the end of the day I will mail a copy of all the exhibits of | 22 | Q. What about that is unclear to you?A. Because I think as a matter of law I was |

23 (Pages 873 to 876)

Q. So you disagree with him substantively?

23 not.

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Page 880

| Page | 877 |
|-------|-----|
| 1 490 | 0,, |

1 A. Yeah.

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23

- 2 Q. But you understand his state of view, his
- rule, his statement to you --
- A. It wasn't a ruling.
 - Q. -- his statement to you was that you were in
- violation of a Court Order? 6
- 7 A. We were in a hearing and I made a, you know,
- 8 that I could not have been in violation. As a
- 9 matter of law I'm not in violation.
- 10 Q. I'm not asking you that. What you're
- telling me is you disagree with Judge Woodlock's 11
- 12 representation here; is that right, is that what
- 13 you're telling me?
- A. Say that again. 14
- 15 Q. You disagree with Judge Woodlock's statement
- that you're in violation of the Court Order? 16
- 17 A. I said no, sir.
- 18 Q. And he said in response to that, "Yes, you
- are in violation of a Court Order"; is that right? 19
- 20 A. I said no, sir.
- 21 Q. I understand. I'm not asking you what you

Q. I don't need you to read the transcript in

the record. Ms. Stevenson, the question is very

simple and you're being unreasonably evasive.

Q. You're not answering the question.

Q. I'm not asking you about your statement.

I'm asking about what Judge Woodlock told you at the

Q. Well, that's something that we can disagree

about. But the question pending is. Judge Woodlock

told you that you were in contempt of a Court Order;

Q. You don't understand that he said those

A. See, at the time I stated my legal position

and my last statement was no, I'm not in violation.

At the point in time any party can move to end a

Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop it. Listen.

A. I'm part of this hearing here. My

is that right? Do you understand that?

- 22 said. I'm asking you what you said. I'm asking
- you. Do you understand --23
 - A. And he went to you --

There's no need to drag this out.

A. Who's being evasive?

A. It's right here.

January 23rd --

statements matter.

A. No, not really.

21 words to you?

A. My last statement.

of -- you know, issues, and that's what I believe. 3 4

- Q. I'm not asking you what you believe.
- A. But that's what I told them.
 - O. I understand what you told them and that's

lawsuit or trial if there are no more genuine issues

- not what I'm asking. 7
 - A. That's what I still believe.
- 8 Q. I don't care what you believe. My question
- 9 is --

5

14

24

- 10 A. And I don't see what you're saying --
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, you're not responding to the 11 12
- 13 A. The answer is no.
 - Q. You don't understand despite the transcript
- 15 sitting before you that Judge Woodlock told you that
- you were in violation of the Court Order? 16
- 17 A. I don't understand that.
- 18 Q. That's your testimony?
- 19
- 20 Q. You don't understand that he said those
- 21 words to you?
- 22 A. I don't understand that I'm in violation --
- yeah, I don't understand that because I'm not. 23
 - Q. Okay. It is your belief that he, in fact,

Page 878

- said those words to you; is that right?
 - 2 A. No.
 - 3 Q. You don't know?
 - 4 A. It's not my belief.
 - 5 Q. So despite this transcript sitting before
 - 6 you wherein Judge Woodlock has recorded to have said
 - 7 to you you're in violation of a Court Order --
 - 8 A. And Ms. Stevenson --
 - 9 Q. Stop nit.
 - 10 A. No, sir, I really --
 - Q. I'm not asking you for your legal 11
 - 12 interpretation.
 - 13 A. It's not a legal interpretation. It's in
 - 14 black and white there. Then he goes on to post
 - another felony date. 15
 - Q. That's right. In fact, in response to your 16
 - 17 statement, "Well, no, sir --
 - 18 A. What page are you on now?
 - 19 Q. Ms. Stevenson, stop it. In response to your
 - statement "Well, no, sir, I really" on page 14, 20
 - Judge Woodlock said to you, "Yes, you are in 21
 - 22 violation of a Court Order. Magistrate Judge

 - 23 Alexander was clear." Do you see those words?
 - 24 A. What page are you on now?

24 (Pages 877 to 880)

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Page 883

Page 881 Q. I want you to look at page 14 now.

2

1

- 3 Q. I just want you to look at page 14.
- 4 A. 13.
- 5 Q. No, I'm not asking you anything about page
- 6 13 now.
- 7 A. But it relates back to this.
- 8 Q. I'm not asking you --
- 9 A. But it gives a true picture.
- 10 Q. I'm not asking for any sort of true picture.
- A. You don't want a true picture? 11
- 12 Q. No, Ms. Stevenson.
- 13 A. I'm not going to lie.
- 14 Q. I haven't asked you to lie.
- 15 A. I'm not going to commit perjury.
- Q. You've already done that? 16
- 17 A. I have not.
- 18 Q. But that's not the point.
- 19 A. See how agitated you get me.
- 20 Q. Ms. Stevenson, you understand that Judge
- 21 Woodlock said to you that you are in violation of
- 22 Magistrate Judge Alexander's order?
- 23 A. If I was in violation of the order.
- 24 Q. I'm not asking you whether you were in

Page 882

Page 884

- violation of the order.
- 2 A. I'm just being reasonable.
- 3 Q. You're certainly not. The question before
- you is. Do you understand that Judge Woodlock told
- you that you were in violation of a Court Order,
- 6 whether or not you agree with his conclusion on that 7 point?
- 8 A. I'm sorry. Say that again? I was reading 9 something else.
- 10 Q. Do you understand that Judge Woodlock told
- 11 you that you were in violation of a Court Order?
- 12 A. I don't believe I was.
- 13 Q. That's not the question.
- 14 A. But I don't think -- no, I didn't think he
- 15 meant it that way.
- Q. That's not the question either. I'm not 16
- asking you whether his conclusion was legally 17
- 18 correct. I'm asking you a very simple and very
- 19 discrete question.
- 20 A. I don't get it.
- Q. Do you recall him saying to you --21
- 22 A. I don't recall it.
- 23 Q. Do you understand that he, in fact, did say
- it to you based on the transcript sitting before

1 you?

2

3

5

12

- A. But I don't agree with the transcript.
 - Q. You think the transcript is inaccurate?
- 4
 - Q. So your testimony is that you believe Judge
- Woodlock, in fact, did not tell you that you were in 6 7
 - violation of a Court Order?
- 8 A. I believe that he did not tell me that. I
- 9 believe that I was not. I would not violate an
- order unless I had allowed procedure that says what 10
- 11 can overrule that.
 - Q. Well, Ms. Stevenson, this transcript
- 13 reflects that whether or not you agree with his
- 14 conclusion, Judge Woodlock informed you that you
- 15 were in violation of a Court Order. You lodged the
- same protestation at the January 23rd hearing that
- 17 you just put on the record now. He told you that
- 18 that protestation was misplaced and that you were,
- in fact, in violation of a Court Order. And he 19
- 20 explained to you that you have an obligation to
- 21 appear for and cooperate in this deposition. I
- 22 can't make it any more clear for you, just as Judge
- Woodlock couldn't make it any more clear for you,
- just as Magistrate Judge Alexander couldn't make it

1 any more clear for you. 2 Now, I'm going to have to seek relief

- 3 from the court based on your refusal to participate
- in this deposition. It is my view and it is the
- 5 view of Neighborhood House Charter School, that you
- 6 are in contempt of not only Magistrate Judge
- 7 Alexander's order that I placed before you as
- 8 Exhibit 45 which directed you to cooperate in this
- 9 deposition by answering every question clearly and
- 10 concisely and limiting your objections only to 11 statements.
- 12
 - A. I don't get that.
- 13 Q. What is it that you don't understand?
- 14 A. What are you whining about? I'm here. What 15 do you want?
- Q. You are here but you are not participating 16 17 in this deposition.
- 18 A. I just answered the question.
- 19 Q. You have refused to answer nearly every
- question I've posed to you. You have interrupted me 20
- repeatedly. You have refused to sit near the court 21
- 22 reporter. You have refused to uncover your mouth.
- 23 You have refused to uncover your head. You have
- attempted to answer questions with cue cards. That

25 (Pages 881 to 884)

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Page 885

- sort of behavior in our view --
- 2
- 3 Q. -- constitutes continued contempt of both
- Magistrate Judge Alexander's --
 - A. No.
- 6 Q. -- orders and Judge Woodlock's orders.
- 7

5

- 8 Q. I'm telling you our view. I'm not asking
- you any questions.
- A. No. 10
- Q. And I'm telling you that, based on your 11
- 12 continued contempt of those Court Orders we will be
- 13 forced to seek further relief from the court. Now,
- 14 you have gotten warnings that were entirely clear
- 15 from both Magistrate Judge Alexander and from Judge
- Woodlock that your continued misconduct in this
- 17 matter would result in the imposition of sanctions
- 18 against you including a dismissal of this case.
- A. I think if you go back prior too many times, 19
- it doesn't have an assessment. I've never never 20
- 21 never done what you've said I've done.
- 22 Q. Well, the court found to the contrary, Ms.

A. You're right, it's irrelevant. There's

Q. Well, Ms. Stevenson, I've told you our

position. I've told you that we intend to renew our

request that this proceeding being dismissed based

on your misconduct which you have continued in this

A. Then how are you going to overcome your

Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm not going to answer any

A. Because if you can't overcome your claim --

Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm not going to listen to --

A. -- can't that over time be dismissed because

Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm going to tell you what

Judge Woodlock said, and I need you to understand

A. Did you want information or did you just

A. No, I think that's a matter of law.

Q. Ms. Stevenson, I think you need to

23 Stevenson.

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14 15

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17 18

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claim?

20 the seriousness --

24 A. I've never done it.

proceeding today.

on today. The court has --

nothing going on here today.

questions for you. I'm telling you --

you can't overcome your claim?

understand the seriousness --

want it dismissed? The burden is on you. 1

- 2 Q. Ms. Stevenson, you need to quit interrupting
- 3 me. Now, Judge Woodlock has told you that that
- 4 reasoning that you just tried to put into the
- 5 record --

7

10

17

24

3

- 6 A. Right.
 - Q. -- that you don't need to cooperate in
- discovery in this matter is because you have reached
- 9 the conclusion that your claims are meritorious --
 - A. No.
- Q. -- are false and that you are required to 11
- 12 participate in this deposition?
- 13 A. It's a matter of law. I didn't research a
- 14
- 15 Q. Ms. Stevenson, you have just stated your
- view of the law. 16
 - A. No.
- 18 Q. Judge Woodlock told you that view is wrong.
- 19 A. No, he didn't say it was wrong.
- 20 Q. Judge Woodlock will dismiss this case if you
- 21 engage in further misconduct.
- 22 A. No. He says he'd probably dismiss it, give
- 23 me sanctions if I don't come.
 - Q. So it's your understanding that you're only

Page 886

- Q. That's not relevant to anything that's going required to appear here but you don't have to
 - cooperate, that's what you're telling me?
 - A. Is that what you want?
 - 4 Q. I'm asking for your understanding, that your
 - 5 only obligation is to appear here today.
 - 6 A. No. I told you what I understood.
 - 7 Q. That your only obligation is to appear today? 8
 - 9 A. No. He says I have to appear on this date.
 - 10 Q. And you understand from Magistrate Judge
 - Alexander's order to which Judge Woodlock referenced 11
 - in making his orders of January 23rd, that your
 - 13 obligation is not to just show up here in a muffler
 - 14 and a hat and refuse to answer questions, you have
 - to participate in this deposition in good faith, you 15
 - have to listen to the questions that I ask you and 16
 - 17 you have to answer them fairly and concisely? Do

 - 18 you understand that?
 - A. I'm sorry. What did you just say? 19
 - 20 Q. You have represented -- and I'll take this
 - out of your way. Ms. Stevenson, you have to let me 21
 - 22 take the exhibit back.
 - 23 A. I didn't read it.
 - 24 Q. I haven't asked you to read anything more of

26 (Pages 885 to 888)

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Page 889

- 1 it. Ms. Stevenson, you have stated or I understood
- 2 you to have stated that you believe the Court Order
- 3 in this matter requires you only to appear for this
- 4 deposition on this specified date. I'm telling you
- 5 as Judge Woodlock told you and as Magistrate Judge
- 6 Alexander told you, that is not the extent of your
- 7 obligation. Your obligation is to participate in
- 8 this proceeding in good faith. That includes
- 9 allowing us to take measures that allow for a clear
- 10 transcript so the court reporter can hear you. It
- 11 includes not interrupting me, not arguing with me,
- 12 not asking me questions every time I try to get
- 13 testimony from you, and it includes giving concise
- 14 and truthful and fair responses to the questions
- 15 that are posed to you. You have failed to do that
- 16 entirely. And it is our position that you are still
- 17 in contempt of the Court Order. You asked me what I
- 18 meant. I've attempted to clarify it for you. I
- 19 don't know what more I can do.
- 20 A. I still don't understand. You keep going
- 21 back over stuff we clarified.
- Q. Because you continue to engage in this
- 23 conduct.
- 24 A. Why --

1 unclear to you?

Q. Ms. Stevenson, your job is not to debate me.

3 It's not to criticize my examination of you.

- 4 A. I'm puzzled.
 - Q. I'm a professional. I do this every day.
- 6 A. You do depositions every day?
- 7 Q. Ms. Stevenson, your job is not to question
- 8 my technique. It's not to question my defense of
- 9 Neighborhood House Charter School. Your job is of
- 10 the utmost simplicity. Your job is to sit there, to
- 11 listen to the questions that I've put to you and to
- 12 respond to them in substance fairly and truthfully.
- 13 You have failed to do that and you have refused to
- 14 do that.
- 15 A. Show me --
- Q. Now I'm going to give you another chance.
- 17 A. Show me what I have failed to do.
- Q. You just did it right now. You have done it
- 19 in response to every question I've asked of you this
- 20 morning. You have taken apart the Exhibit 47 and
- 21 refused to respond to the most basic representations
- 22 and questions. And you have engaged in --
- A. You want me to say yes to something that's
- 24 unclear to me? That's perjury.

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- 1 Q. Ms. Stevenson, it's not your job to try to
- 2 pick apart my examination of you.
- 3 A. But you're confusing me.
- 4 Q. Ms. Stevenson --
- 5 A. You are confusing me.
- 6 Q. Ms. Stevenson --
- A. This is your deposition. Why would you be
- 8 confusing me?
- 9 Q. That's right, Ms. Stevenson, this is my
- 10 deposition. I'm the one that asks the questions.
- 11 A. I never said it wasn't.
- Q. I'm the one that asks the questions.
- A. But you're confusing me.
- Q. That's my explicit job.
- 15 A. To confuse me?
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, I've done nothing to confuse
- 17 you. You have engaged in all kinds of
- 18 obstructionist and evasive conduct, and it's in the
- 19 utmost bad faith and we're going to have no choice
- 20 but to bring this back before the court. Now, I'm
- 21 willing to try to proceed with this and try and get
- 22 your testimony on the record. Are you willing to
- 23 try to do that?
 - A. You've gone through 47 exhibits. What was

- Q. All right. I want to try and give you
- another opportunity to participate in this
- 3 deposition. I've told you our interpretation of the
- 4 Court Orders. I've told you that in our view you
- 5 are in violation of them.
- 6 A. But if they're written down, why are we
- 7 interpreting them?
- 8 Q. Because I want you to have an understanding
- 9 of the consequences of your misconduct here today.
- 10 Both Magistrate Judge Alexander --
- 11 A. If you keep saying misconduct because you
- 12 want it to be misconduct, there's nothing I can do.
- Q. The court has found that you engaged in
- 14 misconduct.
- 15 A. No, because I didn't come to the --
- Q. No. Magistrate Judge Alexander found --
 - A. I didn't come to the --
- Q. Judge Woodlock explains to you that you are
- 19 in contempt because you failed to appear for the
- 20 December 20th hearing.
- A. No, it's not contempt.
- Q. He told you twice --
- A. It doesn't matter.
- Q. -- in the clearest possible terms.

27 (Pages 889 to 892)

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- 1 A. I don't remember that.
- Q. I've shown you the transcript. That's all I can do.
- 4 A. It doesn't say the word contempt. I don't 5 recall that.
- 6 Q. I'm undertaking every possible opportunity
- 7 here to give you a chance to participate in this
- 8 deposition and to do so fairly. I'm showing you
- 9 Exhibit 48 yet again.
- A. Don't throw it. Don't throw it.
- Q. I'm not throwing anything.
- 12 A. Don't throw it.
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, don't give me instructions
- 14 like that. That's completely inappropriate. I
- 15 haven't thrown anything at you. This document has
- 16 not left my hand. It's completely ridiculous.
- 17 A. You've been rude to me since you walked in
- 18 here. You've been rude since I'm been in here.
- Q. Ms. Stevenson, you have utterly refused to participate.
- A. There's no need to be mean or rude.
- Q. I haven't done the least thing that's been
- 23 mean or rude to you.
 - A. I'm a reasonable person.

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- 1 you understand that?
- 2 A. No.
- Q. I just sat the document in front of you, Ms.
- 4 Stevenson.

5

6

7

- A. You don't understand. I gave you a truthful answer, no.
- Q. I asked you if you understand what he said.
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Let's take a break. For the record we
- 10 initially went off the record to take a 10-15 break
- 11 just for everyone's comfort. Ms. Stevenson asked we
- 12 take a lunch break, and she asked that she be given
- 13 an hour-and-a-half to go file papers with the court.
- 14 Is that right, Ms. Stevenson?
- 15 A. In the court, yes.
- Q. In which court?
- A. I want an hour-and-a-half lunch break,
- 18 please.
- Q. That isn't the question. The question is.
- 20 In which court do you intend to go file papers?
- 21 You're going to refuse to respond to that?
- A. I just want to go to have an hour-and-a-half
- 23 lunch.
- Q. That's not the question, Ms. Stevenson. You

Page 894

- 1 Q. You are the person who has behaved with the
- 2 utmost lack of civility in this proceeding.
- A. I have not been uncivil. Objections shall be noted by the court.
- Q. That's right, that's the extent of yourability --
- 7 A. Okay, I object.

8

- Q. You can object and then you can move on.
- 9 A. I'm moving on. Let's go.
- Q. Now, Ms. Stevenson, I'm showing you, again
- 11 giving you every opportunity to participate in this
- 12 proceeding. You told me that you don't recall Judge
- Woodlock telling you you're in contempt?
- 14 A. I don't remember the words contempt.
- Q. I'm showing you Exhibit 48. I'm showing you
- 16 page 14. I'm showing you line 1. You're in
- 17 violation of a Court Order. Do you see that?
- A. I don't see the word contempt.
- 19 Q. So your quibble is with the word contempt
- 20 versus violation?
- A. No. You just said -- he said you was in
- 22 contempt.
- Q. So you understand that Judge Woodlock told
- 24 you that you are in violation of a Court Order, do

- told me you needed an hour-and-a-half long lunch
- 2 which is a long lunch break for a deposition because
- 3 you need to go file court papers.
- 4 A. Um-hmm.
- 5 Q. I'm asking you. What court do you need to
- 6 file papers with?
- 7 A. I want to file papers in both Superior and
- 8 Federal Court, I want to.
- 9 Q. You want to do that on your lunch break?
- 10 A. Yeah.
- Q. Well, I'll represent to you that that kind
- 12 of lunch break is inappropriate for a proceeding
- 13 like this. We need to get through this if we go
- 14 back on the record.
 - A. So what's appropriate?
- Q. I think an hour is a reasonable lunch break.
- 17 A. Okay.

15

- Q. You want to take an hour lunch break and
- 19 meet back at 1:00.
- 20 A. It's 12:00?
- 21 Q. It's 12:00.
- A. It's lunch anyway.
- Q. The question is. Do you want to take an
- hour lunch break and meet back here at 1:00?

28 (Pages 893 to 896)

23

24

Q. -- not to answer the question.

A. I've answered the question.

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Page 897 Page 899 1 A. Sure. I may be a few minutes late just in 1 Q. I'll ask you to answer it again. 2 2 A. I've answered the question. case. 3 3 O. For the record --(Lunch recess.) 4 4 AFTERNOON SESSION A. It's a matter of record. 5 5 O. For the record Ms. Stevenson has refused or Q. Are you ready, Ms. Stevenson? Let me know 6 when you're ready. You ready? 6 failed to move closer to the court reporter. I'll 7 7 A. Um-hmm. ask again that you remove the scarf so that I can 8 8 hear you and that the record is clear. Q. We're back on the record. Ms. Stevenson, do you understand the oath you've taken this morning is 9 A. You can hear me. I'm audible. 10 still in effect? O. I'm telling you that, in fact, you're not 10 A. Yes. 11 and your speech is inaudible. 11 12 Q. For the record Ms. Stevenson has again 12 A. I will not, yes. 13 elected to respond to questions with the cue cards 13 Q. You will remove the scarf? 14 14 she's created? Ms. Stevenson, when we convened this A. I'm audible. 15 morning I asked that you take the chair next to the 15 Q. That's not the question. court reporter and remove your hood and scarf, and 16 A. You can hear me. 16 17 for the record you've continued to sit in the chair 17 Q. Ms. Stevenson, that's not for you to judge. 18 further down the table than that and to wear the 18 A. You can hear me. What's the temperature? 19 19 hood and scarf. So I'll ask you again if you would Q. So, Ms. Stevenson, you're not going to 20 remove the scarf? 20 please move to the chair next to the court reporter. 21 For the record Ms. Stevenson has given no verbal 21 A. What's the temperature? 22 response. Do you understand what I've said to you? 22 Q. For the record Ms. Stevenson has declined to 23 remove the scarf. And for the record the thermostat 23 A. Do you have a card for me? 24 Q. Do you understand what I've said to you? reads 75 degrees for this conference room and no one Page 898 Page 900 1 A. Do you have a card for me? else here is wearing any sort of outerwear that 2 2 Q. Mr. Stevenson, I'm not going to allow you to would be necessary in cold temperature. control the pace of these proceedings. 3 3 Ms. Stevenson, I told you that when we A. Do you have a card for me? 4 convened this morning I would give you a card with 5 Q. Ms. Stevenson, I will give you what I see 5 Ms. Meek's name on it. I've presented that to you 6 6 fit to give you when I see fit to give it to you. for --7 7 A. Do you have a card for me? A. All you had to do was spell it. 8 8 Q. Your job here is to answer questions for me. Q. Ms. Stevenson, that sort of interjection and 9 A. Do you have a card for me? 9 interruption does nobody any good. I've given you 10 10 the card. We're moving on. Q. Do you understand what I'm saying? 11 A. What's the temperature here? 11 A. What is she? 12 Q. Ms. Stevenson, you need to cooperate in this 12 Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm not going to answer any deposition. I'm asking if you will move to the 13 of your questions. Now, when we broke this morning, 13 chair next to the court reporter. I undertook to explain to you that your role here is 14 15 only to answer questions, and that your failure to 15 A. I've answered the question. Q. And the answer is no, you're going to refuse do so in Neighborhood House Charter School's view 16 16 17 and in the view that the court has twice expressed 17 to do that? 18 A. I've answered that question. 18 is that that is not in compliance with either 19 Q. Well, I've told you enumerable times that 19 Magistrate Judge Alexander's order or Judge your protestation is that you answer the question is Woodlock's order at the January 23rd conference in 20 20 not a sufficient basis -this matter. We have put a call into the court and 21 21 22 22 A. I've answered the question. requested emergency relief based on your continued

29 (Pages 897 to 900)

refusal to participate here today, but I want to

give you one last chance to participate in this

Janice L. Stevenson, Vol.

02/22/2007

Page 904

| Pag | је | 901 |
|-----|----|-----|
| | | |

- proceeding. Are you willing to answer the questions posed to you without interrupting me, without
- 3 arguing with me?

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24

- A. What questions have I interrupted you on?
- 5 Q. For the record Ms. Stevenson is holding up 6 her cue card that says "yes".
 - A. But you said you can't hear me.
- 8 Q. Your obligation, Ms. Stevenson, is to
- 9 provide verbal responses to each of my questions.
- Now, what I've asked you is --10
- A. You stated to me to the best memory make a 11
- diligent effort, think to yourself. When I have 12
- 13 questions in regard to your questions, you don't
- want to hear them. When I have -- when I'm not sure 14
- 15 of any exhibits or questions you've asked me and
- I've stated so, you still don't want to --16
 - Q. That's right, Ms. Stevenson.
- 18 A. You still call it obstruction. So there's
- 19 nothing I can do.
- 20 Q. Ms. Stevenson, as I've explained to you far
- 21 more times than is reasonable. Your obligation and
- 22 your role is to be --
- A. May I ask you something? 23
 - Q. No, you may not. Stop interrupting.

Page 903

- responsive to any question I've asked you. It's a
- completely unsolicited statement, and it has no
- 3 place in a deposition. Now, we are bending over
- 4 backwards to try to give you an opportunity --5
 - A. No, you haven't.
- 6 Q. -- to avoid contempt sanctions in this
- matter. For the record Ms. Stevenson has passed
- across to the table to me a document captioned
- 9 Notice of Appeal. Is it your intent, Ms. Stevenson,
- to serve this document on me by passing that across 10
- 11 the table? For the record Ms. Stevenson has given
- 12 no verbal response.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Can the court reporter mark that as the next 15 in order.
- 16 (Marked, Exhibit 49, Notice of Appeal.)
- 17 Q. Ms. Stevenson, I'm placing back before you
- 18 the document that you handed across the table to me
- captioned Notice of Appeal. It's marked as Exhibit
- 20 49. Will you verify that that is, in fact, the
- 21 document you handed to me?
- 22 A. I just gave it to you.
- 23 Q. That's what I am asking you. Will you
- 24 verify that the document marked Exhibit 49 is the

Page 902

3

17

- A. Is this being videographed? Is this being
- 1 2 videoed? Is this being videoed.
- 3 Q. I'm not responding to your questions. Ms.
- Stevenson ---
- 5 A. You know, for the length of time this trial
- 6 has gone on, I've received no employer wage
- 7 information in regard to you paying me to
- substantiate your claim. I have nothing. I've 8
- asked for that. I have nothing. You stalled. The 9
- only thing you've gone to this court is misconduct 10
- 11 in a deposition.
- 12 Q. In fact, our request for relief from the
- 13 court of course are broader than your misconduct at
- this deposition. 14
- A. You know --15
- 16 Q. Stop interrupting me.
- 17 A. It is broader.
- 18 Q. Ms. Stevenson, you cannot do this.
- A. It is broader. It is much broader than 19
- that, and I just seem to posed before the court, 20
- maybe it will resolved in an appeal, maybe. 21
- 22 Q. Ms. Stevenson, are you done making speeches?
- 23 A. It's not a speech.
- 24 Q. It is a speech, Ms. Stevenson. It's not

- 1 document you just handed me across the table?
- 2 A. Yeah, I just gave it to you.
 - Q. And, in fact, on the second page of this
- document it states "Certificate of Service. I,
- Janice Stevenson, can certify that copy of the 5
- 6 Notice of Appeal was sent to the parties listed
- 7 below by electronic mail or facsimile on February
- 8 20, 2007" below listing my name and Ms. Kappelman's
- 9 name of this firm; is that correct?
- 10 A. Well, today is the 22nd.
- 11 Q. It's a simple question. Is that what the
- 12 document says?
- 13 A. Yes, that's what the document says.
- 14 Q. And, in fact, that certification is false,
- 15 you have not previously served this document on me
- prior to today, have you? 16
 - A. Yeah.
- 18 Q. When did you serve that document on me?
- 19
- 20 Q. The question is. Prior to today have you
- 21 served that document on me?
- 22 A. Yeah.
- 23 Q. When?
- 24 A. Today.

30 (Pages 901 to 904)

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Janice L. Stevenson, Vol. 4

02/22/2007

| | Page 905 | | Page 907 |
|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | Q. Prior to today on some date earlier than | 1 | A. On a date what? |
| 2 | this have you served that document on me? | 2 | Q. On a specific date. |
| 3 | A. On the 22nd. | 3 | A. I guess, I guess I understand what you're |
| 4 | Q. And the certification, in fact, reads | 4 | saying. |
| 5 | February 20th; is that right? | 5 | Q. And that specific date was February 22nd, |
| 6 | A. It was the 20th when the computer was on. | 6 | was it not? |
| 7 | Q. So the certification is inaccurate? | 7 | A. I don't know. |
| 8 | A. No, I gave it to you. | 8 | Q. You don't know. |
| 9 | Q. You gave it to me on February 22nd not on | 9 | A. Today is the 20th. |
| 10 | February 20th. | 10 | Q. You believe today is February 20th? |
| 11 | A. I gave it to you. | 11 | A. When I woke up, I thought it was the 20th. |
| 12 | Q. So the certification is inaccurate; is that | 12 | Q. Well, I will represent to you that today is, |
| 13 | correct? | 13 | in fact |
| 14 | A. No. Everything is correct. You have the | 14 | A. February 20th. |
| 15 | document. | 15 | Q. I'm showing you again the document that you |
| 16 | Q. Did you give this to me on February 20? | 16 | handed to me marked as Exhibit 49. |
| 17 | A. I e-mailed it to you. | 17 | A. February 20th, that is what I believe today |
| 18 | Q. You e-mailed this document to me? | 18 | is. |
| 19 | A. I faxed it to you. | 19 | Q. Let me get the questions out, Ms. Stevenson. |
| 20 | Q. You faxed this document to me on February | 20 | I'm passing you the document that you handed me |
| 21 | 20th? | 21 | across the table which we marked as Exhibit 49. |
| 22 | A. On the day I faxed it. | 22 | A. I've answered the question. |
| 23 | Q. That's not the question. Of course you | 23 | Q. You don't know what the question is yet. |
| 24 | faxed it on the day you faxed it. The question is. | 24 | A. February the 20th. |
| | Page 906 | | Page 908 |
| 1 | Did you | 1 | Q. Ms. Stevenson, let me get the questions out. |
| 2 | A. Which is the date I indicated? | 2 | I'm passing you the document that you handed me |
| 3 | Q. You faxed this document to me on February | 3 | across the table. It bears a stamp from the Clerk's |
| 4 | 20th. | 4 | Office, does it not? |
| 5 | A. Because I'm on the assumption that today is | 5 | A. I didn't know |
| 6 | the 20th. | 6 | Q. It's a simple question. Does it bear a |
| 7 | Q. You're under the assumption that today is | 7 | stamp from the Clerk's Office or not? |
| 8 | the 20th of February? | 8 | A. I guess. |
| 9 | A. Yes. | 9 | Q. You guess. Did you, in fact, just walk this |
| 10 | Q. You understand that you were ordered to | 10 | document over to the Clerk's Office? |
| 11 | appear here for your deposition? Do you understand | 11 | A. Which document, this one? |
| 12 | that? | 12 | Q. The one sitting in front of you. |
| 13 | A. What do you mean? | 13 | A. No. I gave you the original. |
| 14 | Q. You are here pursuant to a Court Order. Do | 14 | Q. But you had this document stamped at the |
| 15 | you understand that? | 15 | Clerk's Office at the same time; is that right? You |
| 16 | A. I'm in a deposition. | 16 | see the ink stamped on the paper here? |
| 17 | Q. Pursuant to a Court Order; is that right? | 17 | A. Yeah. |
| 18 | A. From January? | 18 | Q. You had this document stamped at the Clerk's |
| 19 | Q. You understand that the court ordered you to | 19 | Office? |
| 20 | appear here on a date certain; is that right? | 20 | A. They do that. |
| 21 | A. Say that again? | 21 | Q. Did you have this document stamped at the |
| 22 | Q. You understand that Judge Woodlock who is | 22 | Clerk's Office? |
| 23 | presiding in this matter ordered you to appear for | 23 | A. They did it. |
| 24 | deposition on a date certain; is that correct? | 24 | Q. It's a yes or no answer. |

31 (Pages 905 to 908)

Janice L. Stevenson, Vol. 4

21

22

A. I don't know. Maybe hers is wrong.

23 not asking you to speculate about anything. I'm

24 going you to look at the document in front of you.

Q. I'm not asking you to -- Ms. Stevenson, I'm

02/22/2007

| | Page 909 | | Page 911 |
|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | A. The Clerk did it. Whether or the Clerk did. | 1 | What does the Clerk from the Clerk's Office say the |
| 2 | I don't know who the Clerk is. | 2 | date is? |
| 3 | Q. Today, you did this today; is that right? | 3 | A. It's kind of blurry. |
| 4 | A. Yeah. | 4 | Q. It is not the least bit blurry. It's |
| 5 | Q. You did it just now over the lunch break; is | 5 | actually very clear. I want you to take a look at |
| 6 | that right? | 6 | the document. What does it say? |
| 7 | A. What's your question? | 7 | A. It's blurry. I can't. |
| 8 | Q. That is the question. | 8 | Q. You can't that out? |
| 9 | A. Oh. | 9 | A. No. |
| 10 | Q. Did you just take this document to the | 10 | Q. You can't tell what that date says? |
| 11 | Clerk's Office and have it stamped over the lunch | 11 | A. No. |
| 12 | break? | 12 | Q. That's your testimony? |
| 13 | A. Yeah. | 13 | A. Yeah. |
| 14 | Q. And what does that date stamp read on the | 14 | Q. Under oath? |
| 15 | document? | 15 | A. Can you see it? |
| 16 | A. I don't know. | 16 | Q. Yes. |
| 17 | Q. Take a look. It's right there in front of | 17 | A. What's it say? |
| 18 | you. | 18 | Q. That's not mine to say. I'm asking you. |
| 19 | A. Today is Thursday, February 20th. | 19 | A. If I can't see it and you can see it |
| 20 | Q. That's not the question. The question is. | 20 | Q. You can see the February 20th clearly; is |
| 21 | I want you to take a look at the document in front | 21 | that right? |
| 22 | of you and read the date stamp to me on the front | 22 | A. I typed it February the 20th. |
| 23 | page. | 23 | Q. And you pointed to it and it says February |
| 24 | A. This is the date February 20th, 2007. | 24 | 20th, right? |
| | Page 910 | | Page 912 |
| 1 | Q. That's what you're reading from your | 1 | A. I know what it says because I typed it this |
| 2 | Certificate of Service? | 2 | morning. It's February 20th. |
| 3 | A. Yes. | 3 | Q. Can you see it clearly? Can you see |
| 4 | Q. I want you to look at the first page of the | 4 | February 20th typed there clearly? |
| 5 | document where the Clerk has stamped the document. | 5 | A. I don't have a date clear. |
| 6 | A. I just told you when I typed this it was | 6 | Q. I'm asking you what you have to do. I'm |
| 7 | February | 7 | asking you what you can do because you told me that |
| 8 | Q. That's not responsive to anything I've | 8 | you can't see. |
| 9 | asked. | 9 | A. It's the 20th. I didn't say I couldn't see. |
| 10 | A the 20th. | 10 | I said it was blurry. |
| 11 | Q. So you typed this today? | 11 | Q. Where it says February 20th as you pointed |
| 12 | A. Yeah. | 12 | out for me, is blurred? |
| 13 | Q. You typed this document today? | 13 | A. Yeah, that's the date. |
| 14 | A. Yeah. | 14 | Q. I'm not asking you. I'm asking you if the |
| 15 | Q. And you believe today is still February | 15 | type reading February 20th is blurred? |
| 16 | 20th? | 16 | A. Kind of like the first one. |
| 17 | A. That's what the computer when it was on | 17 | Q. But you can read it? |
| 18 | said. | 18 | A. No, because I typed it February the 20th, |
| 19 | Q. And I want you to look at the stamp from the | 19 | 2007. |
| 20 | Clerk's Office. | 20 | Q. Do you have some problem with your vision? |
| | | | |

32 (Pages 909 to 912)

A. Yes, that's why I wear glasses.

Q. With glasses can you see?

Q. Can you see to read?

A. It depends.

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| | Page 913 | | Page 915 |
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22 | A. Sometimes. Q. Ms. Stevenson, it's your testimony that you have filed this Notice of Appeal with the District Court in these matters; is that right? Let's go off the record? (Off the record.) Q. Let's take a break, Ms. Stevenson. If you can excuse us. (Recess held.) MR. MILLER: For the record we received a call from Judge Woodlock's Clerk informing us that the court will hear the parties in this matter this afternoon at 2:15. Ms. Stevenson has left. She stated that she's not available, but we have apprised her that the court will hold a hearing at 2:15 and so we are suspended. (Whereupon, at 1:32 p.m., the deposition of Janice L. Stevenson suspended.) | 1
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23 | COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MIDDLESEX, ss. I, Maureen J. Manzi, Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public, CSR #135093, and CLR, duly commissioned and qualified in and for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby certify that there came before me on the 22nd day of February, 2007 the person hereinbefore named, who was by me duly sworn to testify to the truth and nothing but the truth of their knowledge touching and concerning the matters in controversy in this cause; that they were thereupon examined upon their oath, and their examination reduced to typewriting under my direction and that the deposition is a true record of the testimony given by the deponent. In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 24th day of February 2007. Notary Public Notary Public |
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24 | | 23 | My Commission Expires: January 17, 2008 |
| | Page 914 | | Junuary 17, 2000 |
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19 | ERRATA SHEET I, JANICE L. STEVENSON, do hereby certify that I have read the foregoing transcript of my testimony, and further certify that it is a true and accurate record of my testimony (with the exception of the corrections listed below): Page Line Correction | | |
| 20
21
22
23 | Signed under the pains and penalties of perjury this day of, 2007 | | |

33 (Pages 913 to 915)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

CIVIL ACTION NO. 05-CV-11584-DPW

JANICE STEVENSON

Plaintiff

v.

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE CHARTER SCHOOL

Defendant

ORDER ON

DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO COMPEL PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS AND FOR SANCTIONS

(Docket # 32)

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL PAYMENT OF VACATION WAGES - INCLUDING DEFENDANT'S CROSS-MOTION FOR SANCTIONS

(Docket ## 35 and 39)

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR RULE 11 SANCTIONS - INCLUDING DEFENDANT'S CROSS-MOTION FOR SANCTIONS

(Docket ## 37 and 38)

DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR TERMINATING SANCTIONS, OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE, TO COMPEL DEPOSITION TESTIMONY

(Docket # 41)

and

DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO AMEND SCHEDULING ORDER

(Docket # 44)



ALEXANDER, M.J.

The Court is presented with a variety of motions, none of which may adequately be described as routine. A hearing was held on November 6, 2006 where the parties presented additional argument on each motion, the Court providing every opportunity for the parties to be heard. During the hearing, the Court issued the following orders:

- Plaintiff is directed to answer each interrogatory and provide all documents requested by Defendant, to the extent they are within her possession, custody, or control, and specifically including, but not limited to, her requested personal tax returns, journals evidencing time worked with regard to her business relationship with Defendant, and any documents regarding the entity TuckNT. These documents and answers to interrogatories must be provided by Plaintiff to Defendant on or before November 20, 2006. Further, Plaintiff is hereby PRECLUDED from affirmatively using any documents or information in the prosecution of this action which she had in her possession, custody, or control on or before November 20, 2006 and did not provide to Defendant by that date.
- Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Payment of Vacation Wages will not be heard by this Court as it is not a discovery motion but one that is dispositive in nature.

- 3) Plaintiff's Motion for Rule 11 Sanctions is DENIED.
- Defendant's Motion for Terminating Sanctions is DENIED, however, the Court hereby GRANTS Defendant leave to resurrect this motion after December 8, 2006 should the Plaintiff engage in further frivolous and dilatory tactics in direct disregard of this Court's instant order. Additionally, combined in this motion is Defendant's Motion in the Alternative to Compel Deposition Testimony, which is ALLOWED. Plaintiff's deposition will continue on December 20, 2006 at a time and place to be agreed to by the parties. Plaintiff may assert any appropriate objection she wishes during the deposition, and the Court will liberally interpret the validity of any objection or lack-there-of based on her pro se status, but is hereby ORDERED to answer every question posed by Defendant in an honest, clear, concise, and coherent manner. Plaintiff is free to bring any objections to the Court's attention at trial.
- 5) Defendant's Motion to Amend Scheduling Order is ALLOWED. Defendant is directed to submit to the Court a proposed Amended Scheduling Order with dates certain.

In addition to the above rulings made by the Court during the hearing, the Court took Defendant's motions for sanctions under advisement. One of the reasons that the Court seriously entertains Defendant's motions for sanctions is Plaintiff's

apparently deliberate failure to respond to legitimate discovery requests, whether by way of document production or deposition. Such obstinance was evidenced by Plaintiff's retort to the Court regarding the ordered continuation of her deposition when she asked whether Defendant's could "simply put any questions they had for her in writing so that she could fill in the blanks," avoiding a deposition altogether. Further, Plaintiff's unfathomable questioning of the Court, i.e. asking the Court to read and explain Rule 11, when Plaintiff was the party who filed the motion for Rule 11 sanctions, highlights Defendant's assertion that Plaintiff is acting in a frivolous and dilatory manner. While the Court recognizes that a *pro se* litigant is to be given room, this Plaintiff attempts to take an entire house.

Accordingly, with regard to Defendant's multiple motions for sanctions, the Court issues the following Orders:

- Should Plaintiff wish to submit further discovery motions, Plaintiff must first
 discuss the merits and necessity of such motion with defense counsel and
 attempt to come to a resolution before filing said motion.
- 2) Should Plaintiff file a discovery motion after consultation with defense counsel, Defendant will not be required to respond either orally or in writing unless and until the Court so advises.
- 3) Should Plaintiff either file a discovery motion without first consulting with

defense counsel or file a motion such that the Court deems frivolous, Plaintiff will be subjected to monetary sanctions and the possibility of terminating sanctions, dismissing her case with prejudice.

SO ORDERED.

11 7 06 Date



Janice L. Stevenson

09/07/2006

| | 406 | |
|----|--|---|
| 1 | ERRATA SHEET | |
| 2 | I, JANICE L. STEVENSON, do hereby certify that I | |
| 3 | have read the foregoing transcript of my testimony, | |
| 4 | and further certify that said transcript is a true | |
| 5 | and accurate record of my testimony (with the | |
| 6 | exception of the following corrections listed | |
| 7 | below): | ١ |
| 8 | Page Line Correction | |
| 9 | Name and had been see the course of the cour | |
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| 21 | Signed under the pains and penalties of perjury | |
| 22 | this 4th day of October 2006. | |
| 23 | Janue L'Ateirensen | |
| 24 | JANICE L. STEVENSON | |

Page 1

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

JANICE STEVENSON

Plaintiff

VERSUS

CA-05-11584-DPW

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE CHARTER SCHOOL

Defendant

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

BEFORE THE HONORABLE DOUGLAS P. WOODLOCK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

STATUS CONFERENCE

JANUARY 23, 2007

APPEARANCES:

JANICE STEVENSON, Post Office Box 400372, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02140, in proper person

BARRY J. MILLER, ESQ., Seyfarth, Shaw, LLP, Two Seaport Lane, Suite 300, Boston, Massachusetts 02210, on behalf of the Defendant

Courtroom No. 1 - 3rd Floor 1 Courthouse Way Boston, Massachusetts 02210 10:15 A.M. - 10:45 A.M.

Pamela R. Owens - Official Court Reporter John Joseph Moakley District Courthouse 1 Courthouse Way - Suite 3200 Boston, Massachusetts 02210

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Page 2

THE COURT: Well, I have a series of motions here. But I want to step back a bit first and understand from both parties' perspectives what's going to be necessary to get this to judgment here. Mr. Davis, is it?

MR. MILLER: Mr. Davis has withdrawn, Your Honor. He was Ms. Stevenson's former counsel.

THE COURT: I'm sorry.

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8 MR. MILLER: I'm Barry Miller here for Neighborhood 9 House Charter School.

It is our position, Your Honor, that this case has 11 become an intractable mess because of Ms. Stevenson's pattern of misconduct in this matter and in several related matters. And we believe that Magistrate Judge Alexander's order of 14 November 7th served as last and final warning to Ms. Stevenson that her conduct up to that point had been inexcusable and

16 would not be tolerated further. And starting days after 17 Magistrate Judge Alexander entered that order, Ms. Stevenson

not only continued her pattern of behavior, but actually

19 escalated her antics. She continued to file frivolous motions

against the school in this forum and in the Bankruptcy Court

21 because she knew she had worn out her welcome here. She disregarded Magistrate Judge Alexander's clear instruction that

23 she produce specifically designated documents and she willfully

24 failed to appear for her deposition.

THE COURT: I understand that larger position. But

Page 4

Page 5

hearing? I sent the E-mail to Ms. Rowland. So, I wanted to 2 bring that up. But in regards to --

3 THE COURT: Magistrate Judge Alexander was pretty 4 clear on what she ordered.

5 MS. STEVENSON: Well, no. I want the transcript of 6 the --

THE COURT: Well, that's fine. You can go get the 8 transcript. And Ms. Rynne will help you, although I think it's pretty clear how one goes about ordering a transcript. But 10 that's immaterial at this point.

MS. STEVENSON: Yeah. But --

THE COURT: The question is whether or not you're 12 13 going to comply with Judge Alexander's orders.

14 MS. STEVENSON: Your Honor, I have submitted documents and I have tried to bring to this Court's attention 15 and the Bankruptcy Court's attention that the documents they 16 request I don't have. And the ones I have, I have given to 17 18 them.

THE COURT: So let me be clear about this. Your 19 20 position is that there are no other documents?

21 MS. STEVENSON: The ones she ordered, I have 22 submitted to this Court and to them.

23 THE COURT: All right. So that's her position. What do you say? Is there anything else? 24

MR. MILLER: Your Honor, she made that same

Page 3

25

assume that this is going to be resolved on the merits. What needs to be done?

MR. MILLER: Your Honor, in order for us to respond to the substance of the claims that Ms. Stevenson has asserted, we have to be able to take discovery. We have to get a meaningful document production from her. She's in control of most of the documents relating to the case. Because one of the central issues here is whether her company through which she provided services to Neighborhood House Charter School was an independent contractor or whether she was, in fact, an employee directly of the school.

THE COURT: But is it simply discovery from her and the associated document requests - that is, document requests from her? Is there anything else? Is it all focused on

15 Ms. Stevenson?

16 MR. MILLER: It's almost entirely focused on Ms. Stevenson, including deposition testimony which she has 18 refused to give up to this point.

THE COURT: All right. Ms. Stevenson? 19

20 MS. STEVENSON: Before I address that, I've been trying to obtain the transcript from the hearing the Magistrate 21

had. And on the docket, it referred to a phone number and 22

person. And I've been trying to contact that person to get a copy of the transcript. And I believe they're within this

25 court. Can you tell me how I can get a transcript of that

representation to Magistrate Judge Alexander. And she has

since attached documents to her filings in this matter and in

other matters that are directly responsive to our request that 4

she had not prior produced. She attached documents to her 5 motion for summary judgment that she filed in this Court on the

day that she was supposed to be sitting for her deposition.

7 And attached to that pleading were documents that were 8 responsive --

9 THE COURT: Okay. Well, let's just pause for a moment. Are there any other documents - any other documents?

Because if there is another document and it's produced late or I'm shown that there is another document, I'm going to hold you

in contempt. So, think long and hard. Are there any other 13

documents responsive to Judge Alexander's order that you have 14 15 not yet produced?

16 MS. STEVENSON: I think - I feel like I have 17 produced everything she's --

18 THE COURT: I'm taking that as your representation, there are no other documents. 19

20 MS. STEVENSON: Yeah, because she only wanted three 21 documents - tax forms, the calendar, and I forgot what the

22 other one is. But I produced three.

23 THE COURT: I don't really care what -24

MS. STEVENSON: But the point is this.

THE COURT: - you've produced in the past. Let me

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Page 6

1 be clear about this, Ms. Stevenson. Now the time has come. If

- 2 you tell me that you have complied fully with Magistrate Judge
- 3 Alexander's orders, that all the documents have been produced,
- 4 then I'll accept that representation. If I find that that
- 5 representation is wrong and the defendants can show to me
- 6 either that there are documents that you didn't produce or you
- 7 continue to produce in some other forum or even in this forum
- 8 documents that were responsive, I'm going to hold you in
- 9 contempt.
- 10 MS. STEVENSON: Okay.
- THE COURT: Do you understand?
- MS. STEVENSON: I understand.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay. So --
- 14 MS. STEVENSON: But I --
- 15 THE COURT: Just a moment. Now, no extra
- 16 discussion about it.

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- MS. STEVENSON: It's not a discussion. I want to know why on the documents I produced that has determined
- 19 that I really feel there is no other issue involved if -
- THE COURT: We're going to get to that, but we're going step by step. And the first step is the documents. You tell me and you've represented to me on point that I will hald
- tell me and you've represented to me on pains that I will holdyou in contempt and I should add enforce as sanction the
- 24 dismissal of the case if new documents appear.
- MS. STEVENSON: Well, Your Honor, if you're going

- 1 various actions that you have taken. Now, I intend as
 - 2 Magistrate Judge Alexander did to clarify this so that we

Page 8

Page 9

- 3 can get to the merits so that the respective positions of the
- 4 parties may be fairly evaluated. But I'm not going to let
- somebody interfere with that process. And I want to be as
 clear as I can what the consequences are.
 - First, the documents. So, that's where we stand on the documents.
- 9 MR. MILLER: Your Honor -
 - THE COURT: You understand -
- 11 MR. MILLER: Yes, Your Honor.
- 12 THE COURT: that you're going to have to
- 13 demonstrate to me that there were documents produced afterwards
- 14 or you have a basis for believing that there are other
- 15 documents that she has not produced.
- MR. MILLER: If I could clarify, Your Honor, she
- 17 has apparently and I haven't seen them. But it's my
- 18 understanding that she filed documents with the Court,
- 19 including her tax returns and perhaps some journals that were
- 20 at issue in the case that we don't yet have.
- THE COURT: Have you provided them for defendant?
- MS. STEVENSON: Yes, sir. And I have proof that I
- 23 sent them to him. I sent them electronically.
- THE COURT: No. There were a large number of documents.
- going 25 documen

Page 7

- to dismiss the case on documents that show that the defendant | 1 MS. STEVENSON: Y
- had never ascertained their claim that I was an independent
 contractor, doesn't that go against what the overtime wage law
- 3 contractor, doesn't that go against what the overtime wage law 4 stands for?
- THE COURT: You're talking about something entirely different.
 - MS. STEVENSON: I am? I think we're talking about the same thing. Because in my mind --
- 9 THE COURT: Ms. Stevenson --
- 10 MS. STEVENSON: to me —
- THE COURT: Ms. Stevenson, let me be clear. I'm 12 going to go step by step.
- The first step is the documents, whether or not you have produced all of the documents. That's all we're talking about right now. I'm going to go to the next step
- about right now. I'm going to go to the next step.
 MS. STEVENSON: Okay. Well, why -- may I --
- THE COURT: Are you going to listen to me or not?
- MS. STEVENSON: Well, I --
- 19 THE COURT: Are you going to listen to me or not?
- No. Please step back. Are you going to listen to me or not?
 MS. STEVENSON: I'm listening.
- THE COURT: Okay. I've just told you the first
- step. You will have adequate opportunity to address me onother matters. But this case has been transformed into a
- 25 mess. And it has been transformed into a mess because of

-
- MS. STEVENSON: Yes. When they sent me the E-mail
- after they received this document, they never told me -- and I
 have the E-mail here with it. They never told me after they
- 4 received this document that there was some missing. I didn't
- 5 know about their alleged missing documents until they wanted to
- file a supplemental brief. And I have that E-mail here with mefrom them.
- 8 THE COURT: The docket reports as follows with
- 9 respect to your motion for summary judgment: "Motion for
- summary judgment by Janice Stevenson. Exhibits voluminous and
 unscanned," which means that they weren't sent by electronic --
- MS. STEVENSON: No, no, no, no, no. I brought
- those in here, because I don't have access to what attorneys

 do. But they can —
- 14 do. But they can --THE COURT: Die
- THE COURT: Did you provide them to -MS. STEVENSON: Yes.
- 17 THE COURT: -- the defendants? You provided those
- documents to the defendants?
 MS. STEVENSON: Yes. I E-mailed him those
- 20 documents.
- THE COURT: You E-mailed the documents to the defendants?
- 23 MS. STEVENSON: I E-mailed all of them. Everything
- I have sent to him has been by E-mail.
 MR. MILLER: Your Honor, she did send me a series

3 (Pages 6 to 9)

Page 10

of six E-mails attaching essentially the same thing over and over again. As I understand it, what she has sent to me is some small fraction of what she filed with her papers.

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THE COURT: When you say as you understand, what's the basis for that understanding?

MR. MILLER: When she filed those papers, I had a discussion with Ms. Rynne about what was filed because it was clear that what she served on me was different from what she had served on the Court. And we had concerns about some of the

specific documents that we thought she may have filed because 10

she was, in fact, sanctioned by the Bankruptcy Court from

filing those specific documents because they are confidential. 13 And as I understand it - and, again, I have not seen what she,

in fact, filed with the Court and it's not available online.

But as I understand it, the documents she produced to the Court

16 or filed with the Court include some journals that she

submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor and various other

materials. What she has produced to me are her tax returns and 18

19 only in part and excluding the documents that are most relevant

20 to her claim in this case, including Forms W-2, Forms 1099, and

21 things like that. We don't have the journals and we don't have

the various other documents she was ordered to produce.

23 THE COURT: All right. So you go look at the court

24 file. That's how you're going to get access and make the

determination of whether or not she actually served on you all

Page 12

1 MR. MILLER: Yes, Your Honor. Magistrate Judge Alexander specifically ordered Ms. Stevenson to appear for 2

3 deposition having found that she unjustifiably failed and

refused to participate in the first two sessions of her

5 deposition. She ordered it for date certain for December 20th

after accommodating Ms. Stevenson's schedule and allowing her 6

to reschedule it for a date that she had not been available on.

Ms. Stevenson failed to appear without justification, notice,

or excuse. And in fact, it appears that she was at this

courtroom filing documents on the day that she should have been 10

11 in our offices a few hundreds yards from here sitting for her

deposition. And as a result, my client, which is a charitable 12

13 educational organization, has been forced to expend thousands

more dollars on top of the tens of thousands of dollars that 14

it's already extended in this case for no justifiable reason. 15

16 And we believe that that alone stands for grounds for a

17 significant sanction against Ms. Stevenson.

18 THE COURT: Okay. Why didn't you show up for the 19 deposition?

20 MS. STEVENSON: Your Honor, I came across documents 21 and I produced documents that, according to the law, if you can

22 produce evidence with affidavits that show there is no issues

23 of fact that can be -- that could no longer -- that the

24 defendant can no longer claim and I came to the Court and I

submitted those documents because there is no issue now if they

Page 11

of the materials that she said she did. She says that she 1 2

served on you by E-mail all the documents that were produced in 3 connection with the motion for summary judgment. I take that

as a representation. If it's inaccurate, it will be grounds 4

5 for contempt. Do you understand?

MS. STEVENSON: Yes. I have the E-mail.

THE COURT: No, no. What's going to happen is counsel is going to look at what's on file in this Court.

MS. STEVENSON: Yes.

THE COURT: And then he's going to show, if he can, that there is some difference. And you'll have an opportunity

12 to respond. But you don't get to say things in this Court 13 without consequences. And you have represented to me that

14 everything that is on file in connection with the Motion for

1.5 Summary Judgment was served on the other side. 16

MS. STEVENSON: That's right, electronically.

17 THE COURT: Okay. I heard what you had to say. 18

MS. STEVENSON: That's right. 19 THE COURT: And I've told you what the consequences

20 will be if you have been inaccurate. 21 MS. STEVENSON: Well, I know what you sent to him I

22 left here. That's all I can say. 23 THE COURT: Okay. Well, you've said it. Now that 24 deals with the documents.

25 Now the question of her deposition? Page 13

claim I was independent contractor - and the issue is was I

depending on this person as an employer - and I show through

my documents and my affidavit that I truly was dependent, I had 4 no other income -- outside of my employment with this --

5 THE COURT: Let me cut you short, because you've got to answer my question: Why didn't you show up for the б deposition? You were ordered to show up for the deposition by 7 8 Judge Alexander. Why didn't you show up?

MS. STEVENSON: I did not show up, Your Honor, 10 because I had also informed him after the - after he notified me that I could no longer financially incur those costs of 11 going back and forth to the deposition. If he could move it 12

13 closer ---14 THE COURT: What costs of going back and forth? 15 MS. STEVENSON: The transportation costs.

16 THE COURT: But you were here in court filing on 17 that day.

18 MS. STEVENSON: Yes, sir.

19 THE COURT: Now, the transportation costs are the same to get to this court as to get to the offices just down 20 21 the street.

MS. STEVENSON: Well, Your Honor, I made the cost 23 to come here to file it hopefully that it would grant - that the documents would show that there can be no more - that 25 there are no more issues.

22

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| | Page 14 | | Page 16 |
|--------|--|----|---|
| 1 | THE COURT: You're in violation of a court order. | 1 | something on that date? |
| 2 | MS. STEVENSON: Well, no, sir. I really | 2 | THE COURT: Well, you're going to have to make some |
| 3 | THE COURT: Yes, you are in violation of a court | 3 | kind of motion. |
| 4 | order. Magistrate Judge Alexander was clear. You have an | 4 | MS. STEVENSON: But was it in another court? |
| 5 | obligation to appear before a deposition. You don't get to | 5 | THE COURT: You're going to have to make some kind |
| 6 | make your own choices about whether or not you appear or don't | 6 | of motion. |
| 7 | appear. You were ordered to appear and you didn't. | 7 | MS. STEVENSON: Motion? |
| 8 | Now, the question for me is what the sanction | 8 | THE COURT: Motion. You know about those. You've |
| 9 | should be. I'm going to give you one more chance one more | 9 | filed them. You filed a number of them. You're going to have |
| 10 | chance. I'm going to fix the date for deposition and you're | 10 | to do what you didn't do with respect to Magistrate Judge |
| 11 | going to appear. | 11 | Alexander's order. Ask for some sort of leave. And unless you |
| 12 | So, what date do you want? What dates do you want? | 12 | get that leave from this Court, the consequence will be the |
| 13 | MR. MILLER: Your Honor, we would like some time to | 13 | dismissal of this case. February 22nd. At what time? |
| 14 | review the court file and make sure we have documents | 14 | MR. MILLER: At 10 A.M., please, Your Honor. |
| 1.5 | available. | 15 | THE COURT: 10 A.M. at the offices |
| 16 | THE COURT: What dates do you want? | 16 | MR. MILLER: At the offices of Seyfarth, Shaw, |
| 17 | MR. MILLER: We're probably looking at a date in | 17 | which is in the World Trade Center, a few hundred yards from |
| 18 | late February if that's acceptable to the Court. | 18 | here. |
| 19 | THE COURT: Okay. We'll fix a date in late | 19 | THE COURT: That's where you're going to have to |
| 20 | February. Ms. Stevenson, when are you available? | 20 | appear. And until I issue an order that says that you don't |
| 21 | MS. STEVENSON: I don't have a calendar in front of | 21 | appear, you have to appear. Do you understand? |
| 22 | me, Your Honor. | 22 | MS. STEVENSON: Yeah. |
| 23 | THE COURT: Well, you're going to have to tell me | 23 | THE COURT: Now, what else? |
| 24 | right now. | 24 | MS. STEVENSON: Might I ask a question? |
| 25 | MS. STEVENSON: Well, I don't know. | 25 | THE COURT: You'll have an opportunity. I'm asking |
| | Page 15 | | |
| , | | | Page 17 |
| 1 | THE COURT: Well, I'm going to tell you when you're | 1 | a question of counsel first. |
| 2
3 | going to appear for the deposition. What other obligations do | 2 | MR. MILLER: If that's all Your Honor wishes to |
| | VOID DAVE CALE VOIL WATER TO | ~ | hannen ann ann an a C |

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going to appear for the deposition. What other obligations do
 3
    you have? Are you working?
           MS. STEVENSON: No, but I'm looking for a job.
 4
 5
            THE COURT: Okay. Well, then this date will
 6
    interfere with your job search. Because you're going to have
 7
    to appear on this date.
 8
           MS. STEVENSON: In this Court?
 9
            THE COURT: No, in the deposition at their office
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    just as Magistrate Judge Alexander told you to do. And you
    should understand that it was within my power and it is within
12
    my power to dismiss this case for your willful failure to
13
    appear at the deposition, but I'm giving you one more chance.
14
           MR. MILLER: Can I request February 22nd, Your
15
    Honor, for the deposition?
16
           THE COURT: Thursday, February 22nd. At what time?
17
           MR. MILLER: 10 A.M., please.
18
           THE COURT: You should take that down,
19
    Ms. Stevenson. Thursday, February 22nd. I'm sorry. You don't
20
    seem to be writing.
21
           MS. STEVENSON: I don't have anything to write
22
    with.
23
           THE COURT: Okay. Well, Ms. Rynne will pass you a
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    pen so that you can write this down.
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           MS. STEVENSON: Well, suppose I get back and I have
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hear on our motion for order to show cause, the only remaining
    motions before the court, I believe, include plaintiff's motion
    for summary judgment, the two documents she filed on December
    20th. And to the extent that Your Honor hasn't already
    addressed it, there are objections to the Magistrate Judge's
    order.
           THE COURT: Now, assuming that you have the
    deposition and you have those documents, what is your next step
    in this case?
           MR. MILLER: We intend to move for summary
    judgment, Your Honor.
           THE COURT: All right. When would you move for
    summary judgment, Your Honor, in relation to the deposition?
           MR. MILLER: We would ask for three weeks after her
    deposition is completed.
           THE COURT: Okay. Well, it can be completed in one
19
    day.
           MR. MILLER: We believe it can if she cooperates,
21 Your Honor.
           THE COURT: Okay. So, I will permit the filing of
    motions for summary judgment on March 16. And I will deny the
    motion for summary judgment of the plaintiff without prejudice
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in order to permit the full development of the record in this

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1 Now, you had some something further that you wanted to say?

MS. STEVENSON: Yes. Why would you deny my motion if it's relevant to the issues now?

THE COURT: Because it's not timely and because you have interfered with discovery. I just set a date for summary judgment.

MS. STEVENSON: But if I gave evidence that can 10 show there is no deposition or anything else he can produce that can overcome my evidence, why would you deny it? 11

12 THE COURT: Well, we'll find out. You'll show up 13 at the deposition.

14 MS. STEVENSON: Okay. And what about --

15 THE COURT: Just a moment.

16 MS. STEVENSON: (Heavy sighing).

THE COURT: And they'll get an opportunity --17

18 excuse me. Have you completed your sighing?

19 MS. STEVENSON: My sighing?

20 THE COURT: Sighing.

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21 MS. STEVENSON: Well --

22 THE COURT: Have you?

23 MS. STEVENSON: -- I still have -- I still have a

24 comment. But Your Honor, I really feel like there is nothing

else that I can produce for them.

was dealt with by Magistrate Judge Alexander.

2 MS. STEVENSON: Okay. What is - she didn't even 3 address it, did she? I mean, there was nothing. I still can't get a record from -4

Page 20

5 THE COURT: Magistrate Judge Alexander entered an order on November 7th granting the motion to compel documents and for sanctions by Neighborhood House Charter School. No 7

action was taken by the court on the motion to compel by 8

9 Ms. Stevenson in that it's not a discovery motion or one that

10 was dispositive in nature. And consequently, she denied the

11 motion for sanctions by Janice Stevenson. She denied the

motion to compel for terminating sanctions in the alternative 12 13 by Neighborhood Schools. In short, she dealt with it.

MS. STEVENSON: Well, again, this seems to be 14 15 lopsided. It seems to be --

THE COURT: Well, you say it's lopsided and 16 certainly you're entitled to whatever view you have. 17

MS. STEVENSON: Yes.

19 THE COURT: But the short of it is that there has been a request for discovery and an order issued you have not 20

complied with. Now I'm giving you another chance to comply 21 22 with it. And once that has been completed, your motion for

23 summary judgment -- which you say is uncontroverted -- will be

ripe for consideration.

copies of those.

So, that's how we're going to leave it.

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1 THE COURT: That's what every lawyer and every party believes about their motions for summary judgment. But 2 3 we have an orderly process. We have a process in which the 4 parties don't just tell us when they feel like filing their motion for summary judgment. They don't just tell us that they'd like to show up or don't want to show up for a 6 deposition. Both sides are to be afforded an opportunity to 7 develop the case fully and I am affording both sides that 8 9 opportunity. 10

And, so, I said that I am dismissing your motion for summary judgment or denying it without prejudice. That is, 11 it may be renewed on March 16th after the conclusion of all of the relevant discovery, but not until.

MS. STEVENSON: So I have to refile again?

THE COURT: If you want to leave it as it stands, 15 you can have it left as it stands. You can refile it as it 16

stands. But it's not going to be ripe for consideration until 17 18 March 16th to afford the defendant the opportunity to conduct

such discovery as they were permitted by order of Judge

20 Alexander. Understand?

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MS. STEVENSON: Well, no, because I feel like this 22 is lopsided. I have asked for documents, an employer -- or he should have in regards to his claim that I was an independent contractor. I can't get that from them.

THE COURT: And that's your motion to compel which

Page 21 MS. STEVENSON: Okay. But what about documents I

2 need? 3 THE COURT: Why do you need the documents? You told me a moment ago that there's no need for documents, that 4

it's uncontroverted? MS. STEVENSON: Well, there are still documents they are statutorily required to have. And I would like to see

9 THE COURT: Have you made a motion to compel? 10 MS. STEVENSON: Yes, I have.

THE COURT: And what happened to that motion? MS. STEVENSON: They said they won't give them to

13 me.

14 THE COURT: What happened to the motion to compel? 15 MS. STEVENSON: You mean the one that you just

16 read?

THE COURT: Yes.

18 MS. STEVENSON: Okay. Well, they're still - I

19 feel like this is unfair. I feel like this is a lopsided case. 20 THE COURT: Well, I understand what you have said.

21 But the short of it is that you have so managed to interfere

with the discovery process in this case that it's necessary now 22

23 for two Judges of this Court to make extraordinary rulings, Judge Alexander and me. We're making these orders in order to 24

25 ensure that the parties have an opportunity to address the

(Pages 18 to 21)

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| | | T | HOUSE CHARTER SCHOOLS |
|---|--|---|--|
| | Page 22 | | Page 24 |
| 1 | question of summary judgment in an orderly fashion. You say | 1 | March 16th. Should we set a date for responses to those |
| 2 | you're entitled to some additional documents. | 2 | motions? |
| 3 | MS. STEVENSON: Yes. | 3 | THE COURT: No, the ordinary. |
| 4 | THE COURT: But you have not filed a motion to | 4 | MR. MILLER: Ten days? |
| 5 | compel that would permit me to order it. So, I have nothing | 5 | THE COURT: No, it's 14 days. |
| 6 | before me with respect to that. | 6 | MR. MILLER: Fourteen days after filing. Thank |
| 8 | We now have a schedule that you will comply with. | 7 | you, Your Honor. |
| 9 | And if you fail to comply with it, the case will be dismissed. | 8 | THE COURT: Okay. All right. Anything else? |
| 10 | MS. STEVENSON: Oh, and another thing. Have you | 9 | (No response) |
| 11 | addressed my motion to withdraw? I had a request. | 10 | THE COURT: I think I have been as clear as I can |
| 12 | THE COURT: Right. | 11 | be about this, Ms. Stevenson. I hope that this case can be |
| 13 | MS. STEVENSON: I wanted to put it in state court. | 12 | resolved on the merits. I hope that I don't have to dismiss it |
| 14 | THE COURT: Whatever you want to do with the case | 13 | because of misconduct. But I've made it as clear as I can that |
| 15 | is up to you. MS STEVENSON: Olove | 14 | you've got one more chance to comply with Magistrate Judge |
| 16 | MS. STEVENSON: Okay. | 15 | Alexander's orders. If you don't, then the case will be |
| 17 | THE COURT: If you want to file it in some other court | 16 | dismissed for procedural infirmities and the failure on your |
| 18 | MS. STEVENSON: Make a motion. | 17 | part properly to conduct yourself in litigation with this |
| 19 | | 18 | Court. |
| 20 | THE COURT: I'm not going to interfere with that. | 19 | So, if there's nothing further, we'll be in recess. |
| 21 | MS. STEVENSON: Okay. | 20 | RECESSED AT 10:45 A.M. |
| 22 | THE COURT: But it's withdrawn in this Court. | 21 | |
| 23 | MS. STEVENSON: Okay, | 22 | • |
| 24 | THE COURT: And it can't be revived in this Court. | 23 | |
| 25 | MS. STEVENSON: No. | 24 | |
| | | 25 | |
| ۱. | Page 23 | | Page 25 |
| 1 | THE COURT: Okay. So first, we deal with motion | 1. | |
| 2 | number 59, Motion to Withdraw the Motion for Order to Show | _ | Annual control of the |
| | | 2 | CERTIFICATION |
| 3 | Cause. That motion to withdraw is allowed. | 3 | CERTIFICATION |
| 3
4 | Second, we deal with the Motion for Summary | 3
4 | I certify that the foregoing is a correct |
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5 | Second, we deal with the Motion for Summary Judgment filed by the plaintiff when she was expected to be at | 3
4
5 | I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript of the record of proceedings in the above-entitled |
| 3
4 | Second, we deal with the Motion for Summary Judgment filed by the plaintiff when she was expected to be at the deposition. That's number 57. That is denied without | 3
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5
6 | I certify that the foregoing is a correct |
| 3
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5 | Second, we deal with the Motion for Summary Judgment filed by the plaintiff when she was expected to be at the deposition. That's number 57. That is denied without prejudice. The time for filing Motions for Summary Judgment in | 3
4
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6
7 | I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript of the record of proceedings in the above-entitled |
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8 | Second, we deal with the Motion for Summary Judgment filed by the plaintiff when she was expected to be at the deposition. That's number 57. That is denied without prejudice. The time for filing Motions for Summary Judgment in this case would be March 16th. | 3
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8 | I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript of the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter to the best of my skill and ability. |
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FILED UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURSE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS (BOSTON)

2007 FEB 22 P 12: 23

Case Number 1:05 cv 11584 CPPWURT DISTRICT OF MASS.

Janice Stevenson, Plaintiff

v.

NOTICE OF APPEAL



Neighborhood House Charter School Defendant

Notice is hereby given that Janice Stevenson in the above named case hereby appeals to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit from an order denying Summary Judgment to the Plaintiff entered in this action on January 23, 2007.

Janice Stevenson P.O. Box 400372

Cambridge, MA 01240 617-721-2638 - ph

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Janice Stevenson, certify that a copy of the Notice of Appeal was sent to the parties listed below by electronic mail or facsimile on February 20, 2007.

Barry Miller Lynn Kappelman Sefarth Shaw, LLP Two Seaport Lane Suite 300 Boston, MA 02210 617-946-4800 - phone 617-946-4801 - fax

Janice Stevenson